

SALINE COUNTY

A Century of History

1847-1947

Fancy Farm
Locust Grove

Denane

Indian

Current P.

Middle

* RAIL

Fork

S A L I N

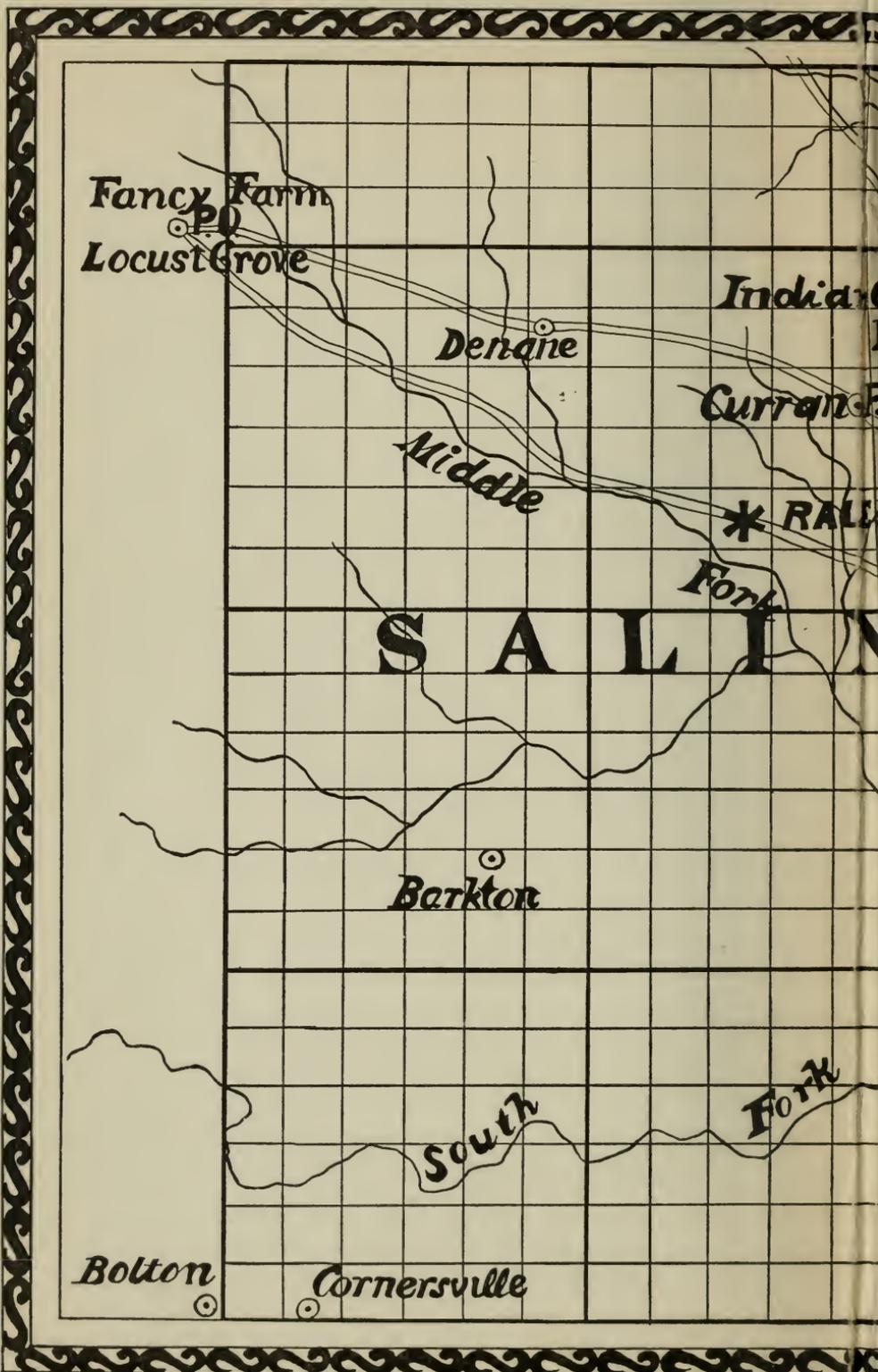
Berkton

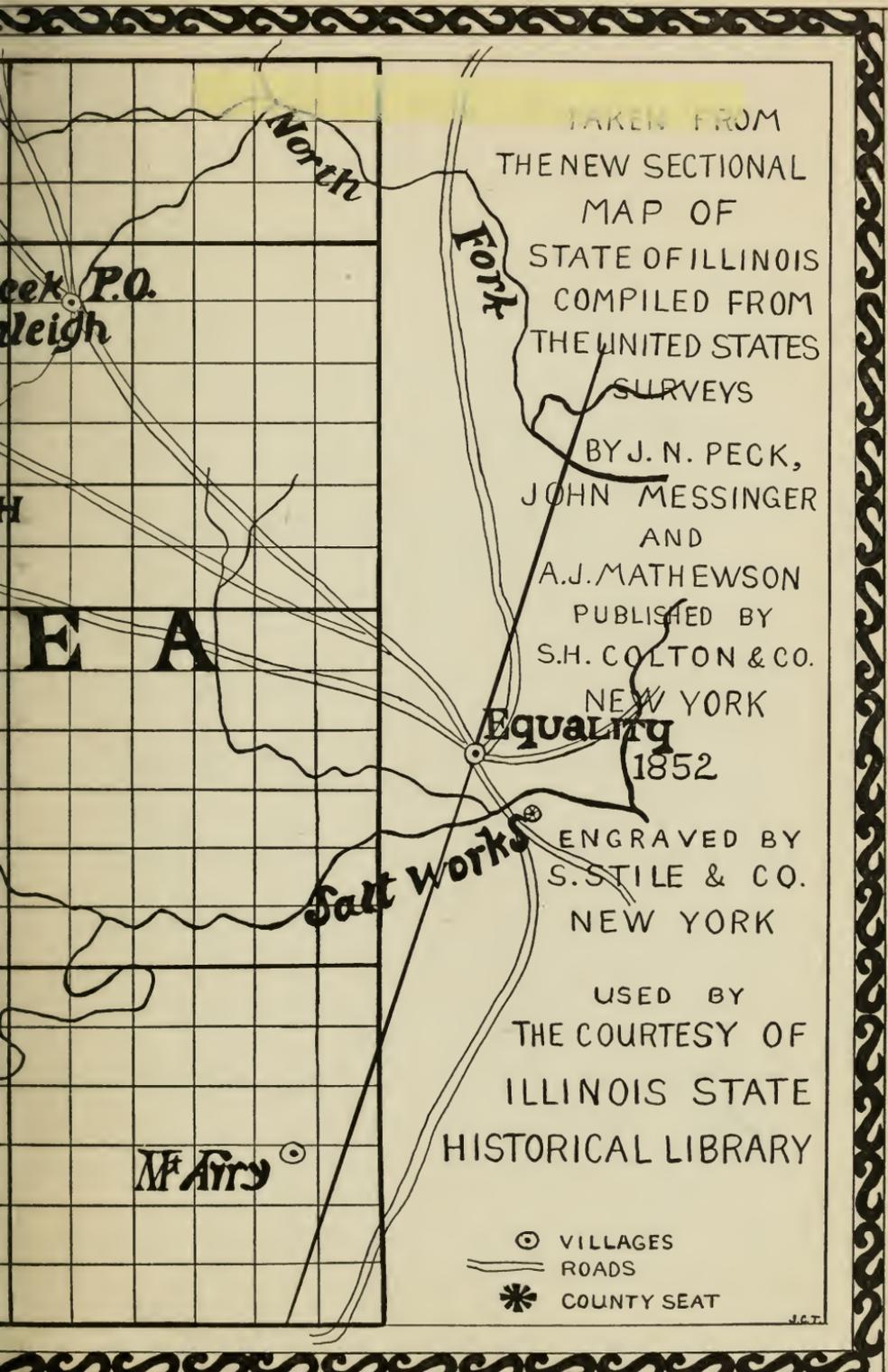
South

Fork

Bolton

Cornersville





1972 1917

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THE NEW SECTIONAL
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STATE OF ILLINOIS
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THE UNITED STATES
SURVEYS

BY J. N. PECK,
JOHN MESSINGER
AND

A. J. MATHEWSON
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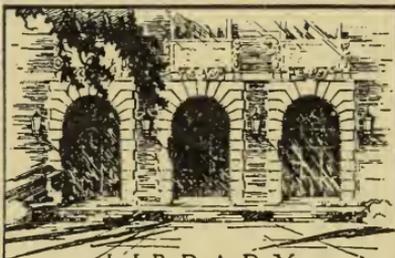
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SALINE COUNTY

A Century of History

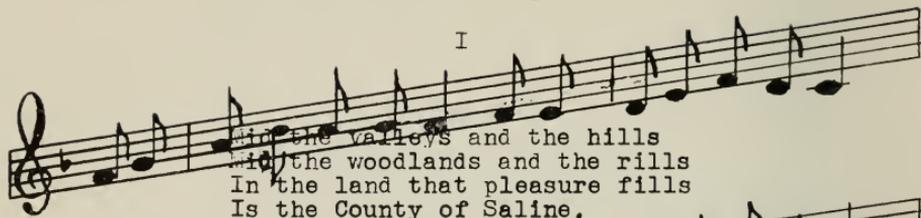


The Old Stone Face

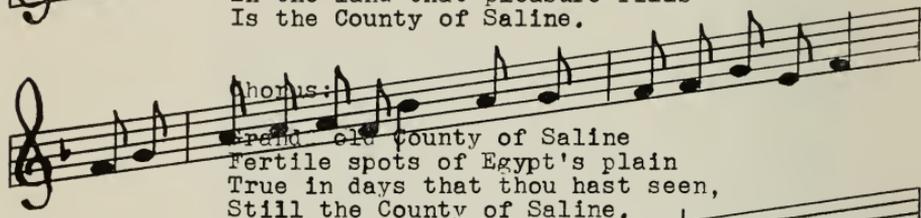
Perched on the top of Eagle Mountain, half-way between Cave Hill to the northeast and Womble Mountain to the southwest, the Old Stone Face is located some eight miles southeast of Harrisburg, the county seat of Saline County. It is in the Eagle Mountains, a part of the Ozark foothills that stretch across the south part of the county and now compose a part of the Shawnee National Forest. First located by Clarence Bonnell some years ago, the Old Stone Face has become a symbol of Saline County, and has been adopted by the Centennial Committee as the emblem of the Centennial.

COUNTY OF SALINE

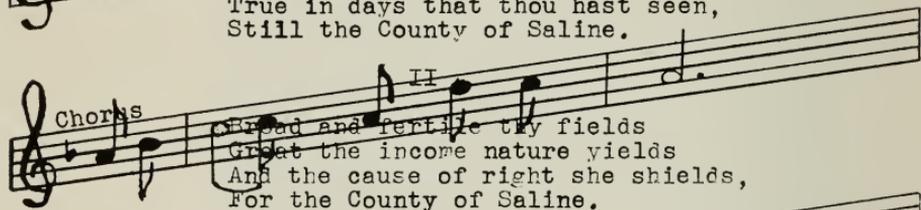
I



Through the valleys and the hills
Through the woodlands and the rills
In the land that pleasure fills
Is the County of Saline.

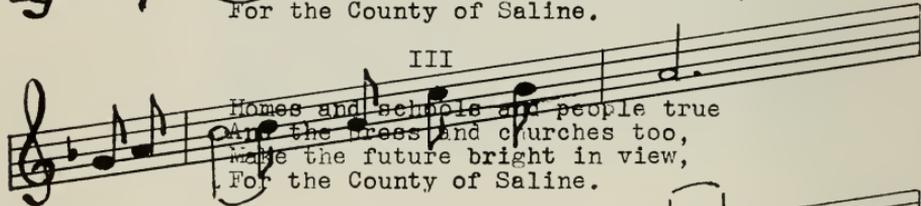


Chorus:
Grand old county of Saline
Fertile spots of Egypt's plain
True in days that thou hast seen,
Still the County of Saline.



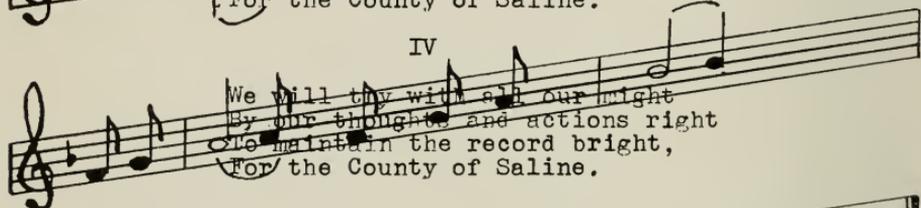
Chorus
Broad and fertile thy fields
Great the income nature yields
And the cause of right she shields,
For the County of Saline.

III



Homes and schools and people true
And the press and churches too,
Make the future bright in view,
For the County of Saline.

IV



We will try with all our might
By our thoughts and actions right
To maintain the record bright,
For the County of Saline.

Music arranged by
Florence Hancock
1947

Words by
George T. Pratt,
1897



SALINE COUNTY

A Century of History

Illustrated

Presented by the Saline County Historical
Society as the Centennial Book.

1847 - 1947

THE SALINE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Clarence Bonnell, President*
T. Leo Dodd, 1st Vice-President
Mrs. Fred Lindsay, 2nd Vice-President
James Bond, Treasurer
Scerial Thompson, Secretary

* Deceased, June 21, 1947

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Saline County Historical Society

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Dedicated to

CLARENCE BONNELL

whose ambition as a scientist, teacher,
and historian brought about the organ-
ization of this society, and furnished
inspiration to further the study of
the history of our county and State.

Ill. Hist. Survey 51047 Recd Direct

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Foreword

By Editing Committee

THE Centennial Book Committee wishes to thank all those who cooperated so willingly in giving their time, study, and information to make this volume possible. This includes not only those who have written chapters but also those who have contributed widely by giving so freely to the writers such information as they possess.

It is impossible to mention specific indebtedness and appreciation as the research has ranged over such varied and wide fields, and in several instances, has covered a period of quite a few years before this book was contemplated. Information has been given by many older citizens who have remembered a great many things that have been a material help. Others have lent old newspapers, manuscripts, and data, which have contributed much. For these, we are truly grateful.

The plan of the Committee has been to have the separate chapters written by different members of the Saline County Historical Society in order to portray individual ideas and interpretations of the life in Saline County a century ago. Our editing has been only for accuracy, continuity, length, form, and repetition. Otherwise, the original plan has been followed and each article represents the personal work of each writer.

We feel it has been a pleasure to have given our time and effort to work with those who have joined so loyally in the preparation of this book. We present the finished volume for your approval.

Mrs. Scerial Thompson

Mrs. Zola Y. Sloan

Miss Alvina Shestak

July 1, 1947

Centennial Book Committee

Introduction

By Clarence Bonnell

THE Saline County Historical Society was organized less than two years ago. It is unfortunate that it was not organized many years before. Many of the early records of the county have been lost or destroyed. The stories and traditions coming from the pioneering times have grown in some instances far beyond the original substance. Undoubtedly much of this would have been avoided by the formation of a county historical society in earlier years.

Little thought was given a century ago by the early residents of Saline County to the remote possibility that the end of the century would find present day citizens desiring to reconstruct the lives and events of early times. As a consequence, little remains for us but fragmentary records, a few short biographical sketches, references here and there in other historical works, and unrelated stories and anecdotes handed down from generation to generation. Out of this confusing maze, the Saline County Historical Society has gathered the facts presented in this book.

Saline County is the youngest county in Southern Illinois—that part of Illinois that has been known since 1821 as “Egypt,” and which comprises the southernmost twenty-eight counties of Illinois at the present time.

St. Clair County was set out in the Northwest Territory in 1790, in what later was to be designated as the Illinois

Territory, and which included that area now included in Saline County. St. Clair was the grandparent of all the counties in the area called Egypt. It extended up the western and central parts of the Illinois country as far as the mouth of the Little Mackinaw Creek on the Illinois River. A part of the eastern side of the Illinois country was included in a county of which a part is now in Knox County, Indiana, centering around Vincennes.

On February 3, 1801, William Henry Harrison, then governor of Indiana Territory, set Randolph County off from St. Clair, with Kaskaskia as the seat of county government of the new county. The new county was described as follows: "Beginning on the Ohio at a place called the Great Cave below the Saline Creek; thence by a direct North line until it intersects an East and West line from the Mississippi through Sink Hole Spring; thence along the said line to the Ohio, and up the same to the place of beginning."

Nathaniel Pope, secretary of Illinois Territory, and "exercising the government thereof," on April 28, 1809, proclaimed that, "the County of Randolph shall include all the parts of Illinois Territory lying South of the line dividing the counties of Randolph and St. Clair as it existed under the government of Indiana Territory on the last day of December, 1801, and the County of St. Clair shall include all of that part of the Territory North of that line."

On September 14, 1812, Ninian Edwards, governor of Illinois Territory, in a proclamation, created Gallatin County out of the area formerly included in Randolph County, "to begin at the mouth of Lusk Creek on the Ohio, running up said creek to Miles Trace, then along said trace to Big Muddy at its source, thence North to the line of St. Clair County, then East with said line

to the Wabash, then down the Wabash and Ohio to the beginning." He appointed the house of John Bradshaw to be the seat of justice of Gallatin County.

The boundary line between Gallatin County and White County on its north was described in 1831 as, "beginning at the eye of the millstone in Boon's Mill in New Haven." This line was used later in determining the north line of Saline County.

Of the 102 counties in Illinois, Saline County was 99th in order of creation. Only Kankakee County in 1851, Douglas County in 1857, and Ford County in 1859, are younger.

On February 25, 1847, Governor Augustus C. French, of Illinois approved an act of the Legislature dividing the County of Gallatin and forming Saline County out of the west eighteen miles. The act provided that "The County of Gallatin shall be and the same is hereby divided into two parts by a line commencing at the southeastern terminature of the line which divides the counties of Hamilton and White; thence running due South with the range line, through the present County of Gallatin to the Hardin County line, the Eastern part to retain the name of Gallatin and the Western part to be called and known as the County of Saline."

The name for Saline County was taken from the Saline River which formed the central drainage basin of the area comprised in the new county. The Saline River in turn derived its name from the Salines in the district which formed such a great and important part of the commercial life of the area for more than half a century.

Thus was Saline County created a hundred years ago. Thus it is that the Saline County Historical Society assumes in full its responsibilities by sponsoring the Saline County Centennial of which one of the activities is the presentation of this Centennial Book.

It sincerely is hoped that the presentation of this book will form in the mind of every reader a wholesome admiration and profound respect for the significance from our century of county history. The county played a substantial role in the development of the Middle West, and for many years to speak of Illinois was to speak of Egypt, of which Saline County was an important part.

CLARENCE BONNELL, President
Saline County Historical Society

June 15, 1947.

August 1, 1947.

The foregoing introduction represents the last written words of the late Clarence Bonnell to appear in print. His untimely death on June 21, 1947, on his return journey from the San Francisco Convention of Rotary International came as a distressing shock to his host of friends, associates, and acquaintances. Perhaps, the greatest impact fell on his fellow members of the Saline County Historical Society, with whom he was occupied absorbingly in the extensive work of the Centennial Celebration. The Saline County Historical Society was formed as a result of his hope and perseverance. The Centennial is the direct result of his labors of love in this respect. He had written this introduction immediately prior to leaving for San Francisco, and it had been set in type by the printer. It is singularly appropriate that his last words to be published are addressed to the many people interested in Saline County history, to which he had devoted so much industry and effort during the past three decades.

Ed.

I.

Indians in Saline County

By Ernest V. Gates

THE ideal conditions existing in Southern Illinois from the standpoint of the requirements of Indian life made Saline County a most favored spot. Its mild climate in the spring and fall, its fertile soil, its rivers and many small streams, its lowlands and its hills, its abundant wild life, and the presence of salt springs on the eastern side, made the area especially attractive to those tribes in the early Northwest Territory.

The Saline County area was actually the home of but two tribes, in all probability, but there are evidences that others at one time or another ventured into the section on hunting expeditions.

By the treaty of Greenville of 1795, which was participated in by most of the tribes of the northwest, grants made by the Indians to that land lying around Vincennes, and some that lay west of the Wabash, were confirmed. Most of this land was then, and had been for many years, under the control of the Miamis. In a treaty negotiated at Vincennes in 1803, the Kaskaskias ceded all their claims to a great tract which extended from the western part of the State of Illinois to the divide between the Kaskaskia and Wabash rivers. These grants did not contemplate the area which is now Saline County.

In 1804, and again in 1809, 1815, and 1816, treaties were negotiated with various tribes attempting to settle land controversies with the Indians in the west, central, and eastern parts of the Illinois Territory. These were made with the Kickapoos, the Potawatomie, the Ottawa, the Sauk, and others, as well as the Foxes and the Winnebagos. However, in none of these treaties did the Indians purport to relinquish possession of the southeastern area which included Saline County, and which was occupied by the Piankashaws and the Shawnee.

The Piankashaws were a part of the Miami tribe. The Miamis, who undoubtedly had some kinship with the Illinois, were a part of the great Algonquin family originating in the north Atlantic region. The Shawnee were also a part of the Algonquins but probably came from the central Atlantic region some distance south of the others of the family. Thus it was that both the Miamis and the Shawnee were a part of the same great family, both were forced from their Atlantic home, each took a different route of migration, and both met later in the Illinois Territory.

The events that brought about the Algonquin migration westward were caused by the formation of the great Indian confederation in the mountains of New York State in the latter part of the sixteenth century.

About the year 1570, the five great Iroquois tribes of the Mohawk, the Oneida, the Onondaga, the Cayuga, and the Seneca Indians, banded together in a group called the Five Nations. They were all extremely war-like tribes. Armed with weapons secured from the Dutch at Albany, they soon succeeded in driving the Hurons and the Algonquins southward and westward.

While the Shawnee from the south Atlantic section moved toward the Ohio region, the Foxes, Sauk, Mascoutens, and Kickapoos moved in a more northerly direction and finally landed in the central and north part of what was to become the Illinois Territory, where they later distinguished themselves for their bitter and sanguinary opposition to the advance of the white man.

The Miamis stopped their migration in the area around and near the central part of the line now established as the Illinois-Indiana line. It was a part of this tribe that moved further southward toward the Wabash who later became known as the Piankashaws. They remained in this area for a little less than two hundred years

until forced to the Southwest. Mainly they occupied that territory between the American Bottom on the west, the Ohio on the east and south, and the territory of the Kickapoos and the main tribe of the Miamis on the north.

The Piankashaws assisted the French in 1736 in the disastrous attempt of Dartaguet and Bienville to attack the Chickasaws. After the disastrous defeat, the Piankashaws retired to their old station across on the west side of the Vermilion River. It was after this that they moved further southward to and below the Wabash.

By treaty in 1805, the Piankashaws ceded this territory to the government and disappeared from the area.

It is fairly well established that the Shawnee were the first of the Algonquins to migrate from their south Atlantic home because of the events arising from pressure of the Five Nations. Although they probably reached their Southern Illinois home at about the same time as the Piankashaws, the first places selected in which to dwell by the Shawnee were in that territory now encompassed in Kentucky and Tennessee, and most of their villages were along the Cumberland River while some were as far south as what is now the State of Georgia. The Piankashaws about the same time were tarrying as a part of the main tribe of Miamis somewhere in Ohio.

The Shawnee in Illinois preceded their kindred of the Illinois, the Sauk, and the Foxes, and other tribes of the central Algonquin group. It is believed that a band of the Shawnee reached Southern Illinois about the year 1746, having been induced to move from the upper Ohio by the French although the main tribe of the Shawnee refused to follow.

The Piankashaws and the Shawnee were relatively peaceful tribes. This does not mean that they fought

no wars but it does mean that they engaged in agriculture more than their war-like brothers farther north. The two tribes were able to live together in Southern Illinois with a minimum of discord between them. The fertile land and the salt springs presented a setting more in harmony with their characteristics and which was not attractive to the belligerent propensities of the Sauk, the Foxes, and other tribes farther north, and who constantly waged war with the Iroquois, and with each other, in the region of the Great Lakes.

After the Piankashaws and the Shawnee reached the Illinois Territory, we find many instances of their movements throughout the area in many of the events during the development of the frontier.

When La Salle planned his fortification of the Illinois in 1681, and attempted a great confederation of Indians to withstand the attacks of the Iroquois, and to consolidate the acquisition of the new land for France, both the Piankashaws and the Shawnee left their Southern Illinois habitat and joined their allies at the point later to be called Starved Rock. It was here that La Salle raised Fort St. Louis which was the first French fort of permanent character in the upper territory, and it was here that the first land patents were granted by La Salle to some of his younger followers.

The Indians gathered at Fort St. Louis numbered approximately 20,000 of whom more than 3,800 were warriors. Hopes were high as to the benefits to be gained by the allies from war against the Iroquois but La Salle was humiliated and recalled to France and the scheme fell apart. The Piankashaws and the Shawnee returned to their homes along the Ohio.

In 1744, when war was declared between France and England, the Shawnee allied themselves with the French and sent many war parties out along the Ohio to harass British traders.

The Piankashaws were usually more susceptible to French influence and adverse to the British but at least once, in 1751, a group of thirty-three Piankashaws appeared at Kaskaskia and, pretending they desired to go on the warpath against the Cherokees, obtained munitions from the commandant. It really was their intention to attack the villagers when they returned from mass. Their actions aroused suspicion and they were forced to flee but not before they had scalped a French soldier and attacked some of the inhabitants outside the village.

In 1759, a large party of Shawnee, then allied with the French, was stationed by the French near Fort Massac to give assistance against a threatened attack by the British. Becoming fearful, the French withdrew the Shawnee to a position near Fort de Chartres.

The Shawnee, in 1765, attacked and captured George Croghan and carried him captive to Vincennes where he was later released. The following year, Croghan, a lieutenant of General Hamilton, represented the British at the great conference attended by a thousand Indian delegates held at Fort de Chartres, at which peace was made between the tribes and the British. The Shawnee sent delegates to the conference and joined in the peace treaty.

The Shawnee roamed throughout the entire territory, and, in 1698, joined the Chickasaw and another tribe in an attack on the Cahokias. They killed ten and carried away one hundred Cahokias as captives.

The Shawnee were at first quiet upon the outbreak of the Revolutionary War but the Shawnee chief, Cornstalk, and three of his tribe were murdered by frontiersmen while the Indians were held hostage at Fort Randolph. Thereafter the Shawnee made vicious attacks on the settlements of Kentucky and Virginia.

Again proving that both Piankashaws and the Shawnee roamed over the entire Southern Illinois area, there were some less than one hundred Piankashaw warriors in Vincennes when it was attacked by Colonel George Rogers Clark. The Indians sent word to Colonel Clark that they would desert the British and join his forces but their offer was refused.

By 1812, strong drink, disease, and all the effects of white civilization, had reduced the Piankashaws to a pitiful few and these depended for a living almost solely on trapping.

The Piankashaws were not as friendly to the whites as the Shawnee and during the period of confusion following the Revolutionary War often attacked the Illinois villages near the Mississippi River. At one time a band was led by John Dodge together with a few whites to attack Kaskaskia in an effort to carry off negro slaves belonging to John Edgar. The attack failed but not until after a brisk battle had resulted.

It is believed that the Shawnee came into contact in the Illinois region with the builders of the Cahokia mounds and either drove them out or assimilated them. This contact with a tribe having a superior culture had its effect on the Shawnee, however, and to some extent modified their customs. They, in some instances, adopted the custom of building mounds and they learned to make pottery similar to that of the Cahokia people. It was this contact that accentuated their quiet habits and furthered their agricultural pursuits.

In reconstructing the more intimate habits and characteristics of all Indians, including the Piankashaws and the Shawnee, it is unfortunate that until the time of Sequoya, they had no way of reducing their history to writing. Early explorers and adventurers in the Southern Illinois region remained close to river travel along

the Ohio, the Wabash, and the Mississippi, and had too little opportunity to observe and write about the Piankashaws and the Shawnee as they preferred to travel overland. Other means, therefore, became necessary in efforts to learn more about them.

Prior to the time of the conquest of Colonel Clark, there were practically no written reports about the Indians in Southern Illinois except the reports of the French about the Indians living in or known to the American Bottom. However, searches and investigations of the traces left by the Piankashaws and the Shawnee in the Southern Illinois area coincide so intimately with what is known of them in other areas that there is little doubt about the principal facts of their occupation.

It has been the pleasure of the writer to spend most of his leisure moments for the past twenty years in following an intensive search throughout Saline County for everything that bore any resemblance to a trace of the Indians living here. The results of these investigations leave but little to doubt when compared with other known facts.

The language of the Shawnee was similar to the dialect of the Sauk. They were known to have friendly intercourse with all other tribes with the possible exception of the Iroquois. The Shawnee, even more than the Piankashaws, met the white man with friendly interest, and it was only after the introduction to whisky that the Shawnee gained a name for being mean, ill-tempered, and dishonest.

Both the Piankashaws and the Shawnee knew how to till the fertile soil of the area, and various flint and stone implements have been found in every part of the county that prove they did till the soil. They were known to raise corn, pumpkins, and vegetables, and often gave some of their produce to the earliest of the white settlers.

Obviously, one of the principal attractions for both Indian tribes was the presence of the salt wells near what is now Equality. The Indians worked these springs in their primitive way and knew full well the value of salt to their daily lives. When the first white settlers arrived in the Saline County area, the Indians were working the salt wells, and gave and traded salt to the whites. As could be expected, the whites soon drove the Indians away from the springs and began to work the wells themselves. The Shawnee rather than the Piankashaws were the ones who attended the salt springs. Ultimately, the whites exploited the salt situation and utilized negro slave labor to make the springs produce more salt. The Indians barely had gone and were not forgotten before the salt wells constituted the largest part of the commerce of the area.

It seems very certain that the Piankashaws did not remain in the territory now included in Saline County very much after 1775, but unquestionably did come back to the county on frequent hunting expeditions. The Shawnee had taken over the southeastern tip of the State along the Ohio and remained along that side, and as far north as the Little Wabash. The Piankashaws were somewhat to the west and further north toward the site of the main tribe of Miamis along the present Illinois-Indiana line.

It was the Shawnee who inhabited the area of what is now Gallatin and Saline counties, and with the exception of one area in the southern part of Saline County, all the graves are easily proved to be the graves of the Shawnee. It is doubtful that there were any other than occasional bands of Piankashaws in this section even at the time of the cession in 1805 to the government, and none remained thereafter.

There was abundant game in the Saline County area

which was a veritable paradise for the Shawnee. Bear, deer, beaver, and many other like animals, furnished both food and clothing. It is recorded that the beaver skins in this area were much superior to those of the Arkansas region. In addition, there were wild turkeys, great flocks of wild geese and ducks, and other smaller game such as squirrels, all in quantities that made a livelihood quite simple for the Indians.

The Saline River was a sizeable stream in those days before the forests were denuded, and there were many smaller streams feeding into the Saline. All were well stocked with fish, and except in flood times, furnished a ready supply of food.

The Indians knew how to dry and salt their meat for future use. Maple syrup from the forest trees was a delicious by-product of the woodland. The growing of tobacco was not unknown to the Shawnee and evidently the knowledge had been brought with them from their seaboard and southern homes. The Shawnee were the first tobacco raisers in Saline County, and many pipes fashioned out of sandstone or clay have been found in and about their graves. Some of these pipes were in the form of birds and animals; others followed what is now a rather conventional pattern.

It is not clear that there were many, if any, buffalo in the Saline County area, comprising as it did, cypress swamps and wooded hills. There may have been some buffalo along the north line of the area in earlier days where the land is more like a plain but the central and southern parts of the Saline county area were not suitable for buffalo. Before 1800, there were antelope in the area, and these were killed by the Shawnee and their meat and hides used for food, shelter and clothing.

The Shawnee, as well as the Piankashaws, were careful in burying their dead, and the Shawnee graves in

the area furnish considerable light on their identity and customs, especially when considered in the light of their graves along the Cumberland. The Shawnee usually liked to bury on high hills overlooking their camp ground, but graves have been found in the actual camp ground plot.

The common belief that Indians always were buried facing the west is not true of the Shawnee in this county. Some were buried facing the sun at the time of burial, and consequently, the graves are headed in several different directions. The Shawnee also were known to place corpses in trees, and inter them later in regular graves. In an area such as was Saline County in early days, with its swamp land, it readily can be understood that in flood times, it would be desirable to defer interment in the ground to other times.

Shawnee graves have been found in Saline County where multiple burials were had. In one instance, a Shawnee was buried face down, with an earthen pot at his side, and a round stone at his head. It is believed that the deceased had been convicted of the commission of crime, and that the manner of burial bore some relation to his punishment.

The main identifying fact about the Shawnee graves in Saline County is that everyone contains charcoal, mussel shells, and limestone. The Shawnee had an ancient custom of burial with limestone, and some of their graves contained a crude sort of limestone lining. Others contained lesser amounts of limestone, and others where limestone was not available, contained sandstone, which in the southern part of the area was found in unlimited quantities. This form and type of grave was used by the Shawnee before they came to Southern Illinois, and definitely establishes that the Shawnee, more so than the Piankashaws, inhabited this area.

By the year 1812, which was the earliest there really was much done in the settlement of the Saline County area, the Piankashaws were all gone, and the Shawnee no longer were existing in any sizeable band. This was quite a few years after the battle between the Shawnee and the Kaskaskias under John Baptiste Du Quoin near the present site of West Frankfort. At that time, the Kaskaskias numbered no more than fifty warriors and it is not thought the Shawnee numbered many more.

The influx of the whites had caused the tribe relationship to break up into more of a family relationship, and the Indians roamed about in small groups, usually related by either blood or marriage.

The Shawnee who dwelt in the Saline County area were very much like their brothers of the Algonquin family with a few exceptions. They had adopted the custom of the Cahokias to build burial mounds and many such are found in Gallatin County. There is at least one in Saline County located some two and one-half miles west of Bankston Church, and slightly southwest of the village of Harco, in Brushy Township.

The Shawnee also were more farm-minded, and one of the reasons they were satisfied with the southeastern Illinois area was the fertile land fitted into their agricultural habits, and the abundance of game also furnished sufficient food without total dependence upon the soil.

In other ways, the Shawnee were very much like the other tribes of the Illinois group. It is true that they were not quite as warlike as the other tribes of Algonquins in the north, nevertheless they were sufficiently fierce to be on the war path consistently enough to meet the disfavor of the white settlers. As with the other tribes of the Illinois, they were implacable enemies of

the Iroquois, but contact with the Iroquois in Egypt was only at rare intervals, and only then when the Shawnee left Southern Illinois to seek conflict with them.

The Shawnee also had adopted the custom of the mound builders of making pottery, and were adept at fashioning fish nets. They knew primitive weaving and were skillful in work with stone and flint.

There are traces of one large deer trap in the county. This was located at the site of the present Wolf Creek Church on the west side of Eldorado. Here there was a slight elevation which on the west had a rather steep cliff. It was in the shape of a V, and the Indians drove stakes in the same form, drove the deer to the apex, and thus over the cliff. At the bottom of the cliff, the Indians had driven sharpened stakes, and the deer were crowded off the cliff and on to the stakes.

A little further west of this site, and about half way to Raleigh, near the site of the present City Reservoir of Eldorado is the site of a large camp ground. Traces of pottery, flint, and bones, prove unmistakably this to have been an important camp ground.

At the present site of the Town House of the Town of Rector, toward the northeast part of the county, were three camp grounds near Rector Creek, and all within one mile. One of the sites is north of Rector Creek, and two of the sites are south of the creek. It was in this neighborhood that a lone Shawnee slew John Rector in the year 1805, when he was surveying the township lines while employed by the Federal Government in the survey of this part of the Northwest Territory. Rector was a Revolutionary War soldier and a relative of the surveyor general of the new republic.

Another important camp and burial ground of the Shawnee was Flint Hill, or Haley's Hill, about one-half mile due south of Eldorado and near a branch

of Beaver Creek. This hill was called Flint Hill in late years because of the great number of flints found all over it. On this hill also have been found many beautiful ceremonial relics of the Shawnee. The largest banner stone ever found in Southern Illinois was found on this hill, and a fire pit some six or seven feet in diameter also was found here.

The Shawnee located most of their camps along the streams of the area, and some twenty-five camp grounds have been located along Bankston Creek from Carrier Mills to the upper part of Brushy Township. Flints, arrows, pottery, axes, and other Shawnee indicia have been found all up and down Bankston Creek. In one of these camps was found many dark blue flint arrow heads, entirely different from any found in the other Shawnee camps. One can only indulge in conjecture, but in view of the fact that this type of blue flint has been found in no other part of the county, and was not common to the Shawnee, it would seem that it was flint captured from some Indian enemy.

Some seven or eight camps have been located in Stonefort Township at the south edge of the county. These are distinguished by an unusual difference from the other camp grounds of the county; the flints and other implements found in these camp sites are of much inferior workmanship than the others. It is quite possible that the camp sites date back to an earlier era than that of the Shawnee, or it could be that a different tribe altogether inhabited the area. It would seem quite probable that this particular area was used by a band of the Piankashaws who possessed less skill than the Shawnee.

Other camp and burial grounds have been found near Beaver Pond which is approximately one and one-fourth miles southeast of the present village of Wasson. Shaw-

nee fish spears were found at this site, and it is one of the few sites where such implements have been found in Egypt.

Camp grounds and burial sites also are located along the upper forks of the Saline River, and a favorite spot of the Shawnee was in front of the Eagle Mountains, in what is now Mountain Township, and between the mountains and the Saline River. It is known that the Shawnee also lived on the other side of the mountains on the edge of Gallatin County, and the last known Shawnee living in Saline County was an aged Shawnee squaw living in Eagle Valley. It is known that she lived alone in solitary squalor as late as 1875 but was so far neglected and unnoticed that she had disappeared for some considerable period of time before the farmers around realized that she no longer was among them.

It was in this mountain neighborhood that Hankerson Rude constructed the first Blockhouse in Saline County soon after 1814, and it was in this neighborhood that the last skirmish between the Shawnee and the white settlers took place. Elijah Gibbs, an aged settler in that area, lived on the top of what is now called Blackman Hill, a couple of miles north of Thackers Gap which leads through the mountains into Pope County. Gibbs has been dead for some twenty years but before he died he retold the story of the last fight with the Shawnee in the lowland valley near the Blockhouse. There probably were no more than 12 or 15 marauding Shawnee and the battle occurred about the year 1834. Of course they were driven off and were seen no more. At that time, the Indians in Saline County were few and far between. The county had been completely taken under the control and domination of the white settlers.

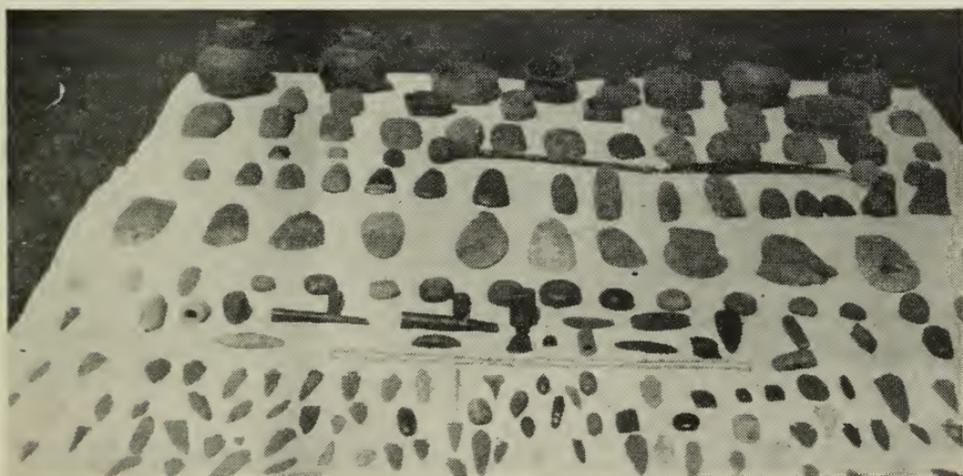
Whether we call the Shawnee poor "Red men," despoiled of their homeland birth-right, or whether we

term them dirty, ill-tempered, lying, and dishonest savages, the fact remains that they contributed much to the success of the early pioneers.

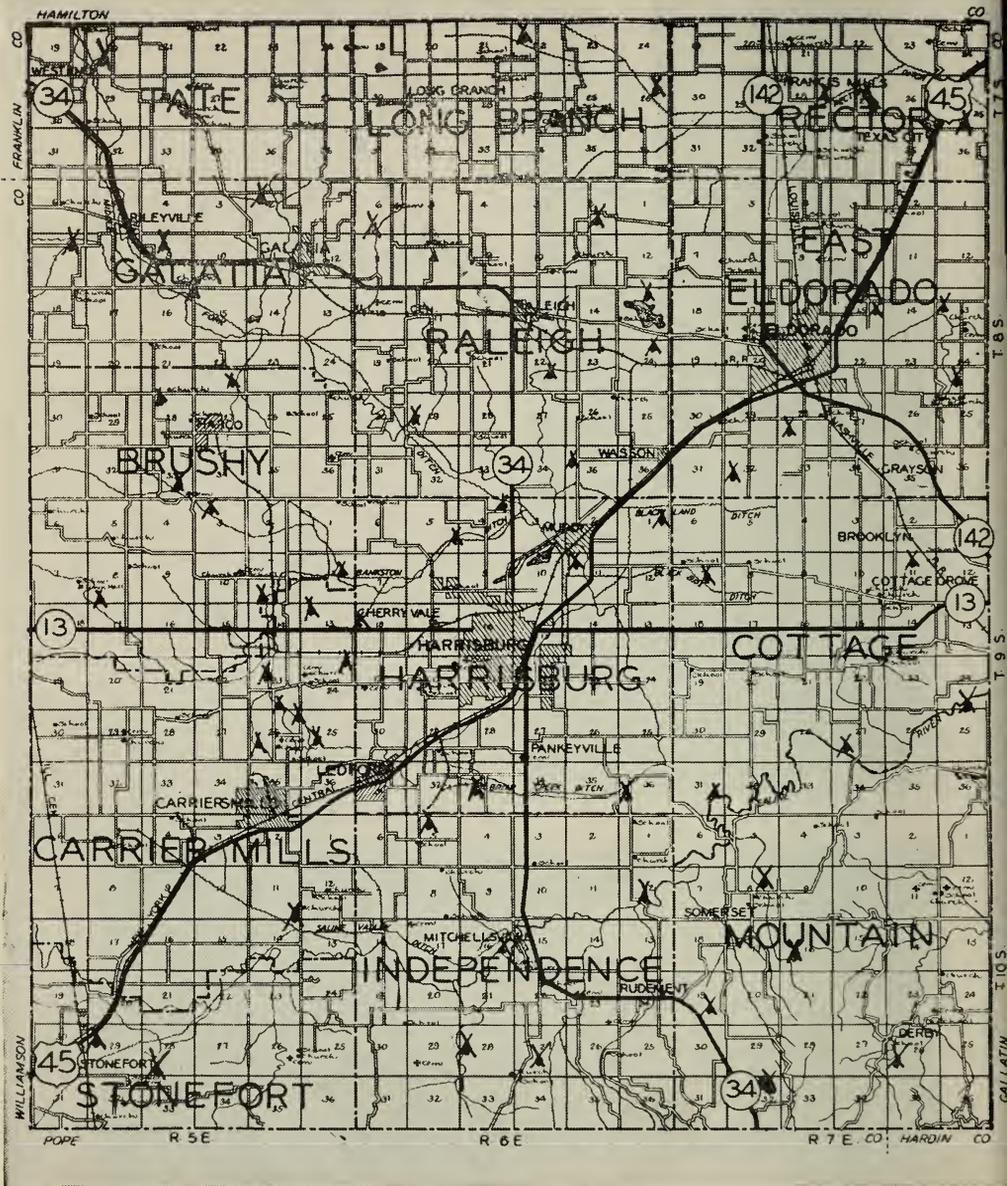
The Shawnee trails were used to blaze out roads. On occasions, individual Shawnee assisted the settlers by giving grain, meat, and primitive medicines. They showed the whites the location and use of the salines. They assisted early settlers in methods of hunting and fishing. It was only when quantities of whisky were brought into the picture that the Shawnee lost all semblance of friendliness and became surly and ill-tempered. As a group, the Shawnee in Saline County were more friendly, more industrious, and more peaceable than any other tribe of Indians in the Northwest Territory. Without them, our county history would not have been complete.



Indian Grave
in
Saline County.



Part of Indian Collection of Ernest V. Gates.



Map of Saline County showing Indian Camp and Burial Grounds. Tepees indicate sites.

II.

The Salt Works and Pioneer Life

By J. Ward Barnes

WHEN Southern Illinois' youngest county was created, in 1847, the region was torn by the strife of the slavery question. Egypt was always livid in its loyalties. For this reason, it would have been indiscreet to have chosen the name for the new county from among the ranks of the "nation's great," as had sister counties, such as: Gallatin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Jackson, and Franklin, to name only a few. What then would be more natural than to turn to their most important natural phenomenon, the salt springs, and the river Saline named for the springs on its banks. The land of the new county was cut across by the three forks of this same Saline River. So then, Saline the new county was named.

In the years immediately preceding 1847, the making of salt had been one of the region's biggest industries and was to so continue until the 1870's. In fact, salt was a necessity for life on the American frontier.

There were two of the natural sources or salt springs in what was then the Wabash Salines—The Half Moon Lick, a mile or so west of the present town of Equality, and the older "Nigger Well," about three miles east of Equality. The former supposedly was the last to be operated. But be that as it may, the old "Nigger Well" was the more important of the two, in addition to being the more glamorous one.

Tradition and scientific research agree that prehistoric man refined salt at the site of the "Nigger Well," on the south bank of the Saline River, near the confluence of that stream with the Ohio, in what is now Gallatin County, Illinois.

The archaeologists base their opinions on the abundance of prehistoric pottery fragments found in the immediate neighborhood. A study of these fragments

reveals that they have a very slight curvature indicating that they were vessels of large capacity and were rather shallow, probably flat bottomed. It is to be supposed that early man carried the brine to the flat top of the neighboring bluff where it was poured into the large pans described above and allowed to evaporate. The importance of this spring to early man may be judged by the abundance of this pottery. Even at this late date, the amateur archaeologist can easily pick up a bushel basket of the fragments in a single afternoon. It is true that nearly all of the pieces will be small, for prehistoric vessels have trouble resisting a tractor and gang plow, but they easily will be identified as having been a part of a large earthen-ware vessel. On a trip there in the spring of this year, the writer picked up pieces a foot square (and didn't even spoil his shoe shine.)

Practically all the natives of the region know that one of our State's first big industries was salt making, but there are few who really realize the tremendous importance of the thing. How many of the citizens of Southern Illinois know that in point of number of men employed, the salt industry of the Wabash Salines ranked favorably with the coal industry of present day Saline County? Neither is it generally known that the salt barons of their day were strong enough, politically, to cause the national government to defy the Northwest Ordinance and admit Illinois into the Union in 1818 with a constitution permitting slavery in the "government salt reserves."

Those interested in a further study of this early pottery and its relation to the salt industry will find the following article very interesting and informative: Sellers, George E., "Aboriginal Pottery of the Salt Springs," *Popular Science Monthly*, September, 1877.

Just when the white men became interested in these springs as a source of salt is not known. We find the Englishman, Captain Harry Gordon, writing in 1766, "The 2nd August, in the evening, left Wabash, stopped next morning near the Saline, or Salt Run; of which any quantity of good salt may be made here." We may infer from this that the spring was well known to travelers and scouts, and was used as some sort of camping ground, and also that there were at the time some sort of activity there. If we grant the latter inference, we must also conclude that the French manufactured salt here, as Captain Gordon was writing only three years after the Peace of Paris, by which England received the territory from France.

Just when the Americans began to apply American ingenuity and big business methods to the salt business is not known, but on March 1, 1784, Virginia ceded all her lands north of the Ohio, except a reservation for bounty lands, to the national government. With this cession went the Wabash Salines. At this time, apparently no one was interested in the springs. We next hear of them indirectly. Tucked away among the Coffee Papers, in the Archives of the State of Tennessee, is the following receipt:

"District of Tennessee
Collectors Office

John Coffee having produced the
manifest of his cargo and paid Duties Per-
mission is hereby granted to land nine
Casks of Salt with the Port of Palmyra.

Given under my hand and Seal of Office
11th of November 1798.

Morgan Brown, Collector"

John Coffee and Andrew Jackson, in addition to being relatives by marriage, were business partners. One of

their many ventures was a fleet of flat boats that traded up and down the Cumberland, Ohio, and Mississippi rivers. James Remington was one of their most trusted captains. On Feb. 14, 1800, he wrote Coffee, who was then in St. Genevieve, from the Illinois Saline informing him that he had disposed of his cargo advantageously, and wanting further instructions. He had not left the Saline on February 26 for we find him writing his employer again. It seems that on the 21st, Coffee had written Remington telling him to try to buy a boat from Captain Bradley. Remington found Bradley wanted sixty bushels of salt for his boat and was firm on his price. Remington states that the boat is badly in need of repairs but advises Coffee to go ahead and buy it.

The deal must have gone through for, on March 18, 1800, Bradley gave Remington the following receipt:

“Saline March 18th 1800

This day Rec'd of J. Remington one hundred and eighty dollars in full for the Barge called “Irish Room.”

Bradley”

In a sort of pocket note book or diary belonging to Coffee but which is undated, and which Mr. Quarrels, Secretary of Tennessee Historical Society, assured me was written about 1800, appears the following notation, “The balance of the day was spent in mirth and jollity. Next morning Monday the 17th, I was desirous to start to St. Louis but was prevented by the running of the Ice which was now in great quantities, and was then snowing very fast and no probability of a cessation for many days having heard that a gentleman at the Saline wish to purchase a negro with salt, I sent Dilso with Sam, Tom & Pompey who are going to work at the Saline and consined her to W. Spencer to sell for me.”

This entry must have been late in 1800, or early in

1801, for an April 23, 1801, Spencer gave Remmington his note stating that for value received he promised to pay "one hundred sixty dollars and sixty cents in good salt at \$3 Per bu."

Whatever work was done to produce the salt to carry on the business described above was done illegally, for it was not until March 3, 1803, that Congress authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to lease the Illinois Salines for the benefit of the National Government. Gallatin, then Secretary of the Treasury, passed the authority on to William Henry Harrison, Governor of the Indiana Territory, and in the summer of 1803, Captain Bell of Lexington, Ky., secured the lease. As further proof that the springs had been worked prior to this time, Reynolds states, in his Pioneer History of Illinois, that in 1802 a ferry was in operation at Shawneetown to accommodate the people who were coming from Kentucky to the salt works on the Saline River.

Apparently, as soon as he heard of the Government's decision to lease the springs, Jackson became interested. On Jan. 7, 1804, he wrote Coffee from Hunter-Hill: (He had not yet built the Hermitage.)

"I enclosed you a letter that perhaps will be of use provided you can make a purchase or lease of the Salines. I forgot to name to you that Monday we will want Hemp — I have to go to town on tomorrow or Monday and will be happy to see you before you set out — If you are not supplied with a horse I will endeavor to let you have my Carriage bay, but as a saddle horse I cannot recommend him—

Health and Respect
Andrew Jackson"

The enclosed letter is of even more importance for purposes of this chapter, and was as follows:

"Hunter's Hill January 7th 1804

John Coffee

Sir:

Should you find when you reach the Salines in the Illinois, that you can make a purchase, upon terms advantageous to us you are hereby authorized to offer my signature to any instrument of writing for securing the payment to the vendors.

I am not capable of judging of their value, but suppose them a good purchase at Twenty five thousand dollars, payable in merchandize. You may safely go as high as thirty five thousand dollars. If only three perhaps thirty thousand would be as much as could be safely given. I only give you these ideas for your reflection not to be strictly bound thereby, but forty thousand ought not to be exceeded.

"If a purchase cannot be effected I wish you to lease them for ten years, on such terms as you may think advisable, and this will authorize you to sign my name to an article for securing the payment to the Lessee. I wish at least to have one third of the purchase or lease, or one half if you wish us alone concerned. It will be well if we can meet to have some further conversation on this subject, and I will give you a full power to act in the premises.

Health and Respect
Andrew Jackson"

Whether or not Coffee took Jackson's carriage bay, we do not know but we do know that he made the journey to the Salines and made a very careful study of the expenses involved in the making of salt.

The following estimates of expenditures are taken from his note book. This information will throw light on the size of the business and the amount of capital required as early as 1804.



Salt Spring as it Appears Today.

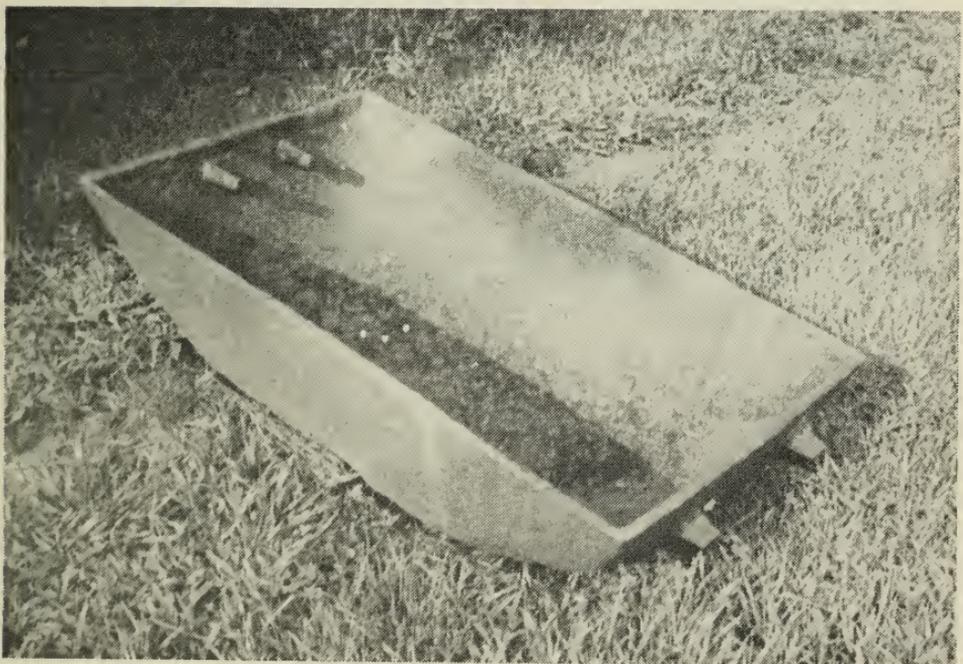


PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Old Iron Kettle used in refining sale at Salt Wells.
Kettle donated Saline County Historical Society by Roy L. Rievley



PHOTO COURTESY CLARENCE BONNELL

Mouth of Saline River.

800 kettles	at 11 dollars	8,800.00
50 woodcutters	at 120 "	6,000.00
25 waggoners	at 120 "	3,000.00
10 boys	at 50 "	500.00
10 cooks	at 50 "	500.00
35 kettle attendants	at 300 "	10,500.00
100 Wagon horses	at 100 "	10,000.00
10 horses to draw water	at 50 "	500.00
25 waggons	at 100 "	2,500.00
5 common overseers	at 100 "	500.00
2 superintendents	at 250 "	500.00
1 clerk	at 400 "	400.00
60 M weight of pork	at 30 "	1,800.00
20 ds bushels of meal	at 21 "	666.662/3
20 ds weight of Beef	at 30 "	600.00
2 ds barrels of corn	at 12 "	4,000.00
25 barrels of flower	at 6 "	150.00
1 carpenter	at 400 "	400.00
6 common ds	at 200 "	1,200.00
2 stone masons	at 300 "	600.00
150 axes	at 3 "	450.00
other tools		250.00
1 blacksmith		400.00
		<hr/>
		54,466.662/3
Am't Bro't forward		54,466.662/3
Add for contingent expense		5,533.331/3
		<hr/>
One years amount		60,000.00
Deduct for Stock on hand		
One half of the kettles	4,400	
Ds horses	5,000	
Ds waggons	1,200	
Ds axes	200	
Ds other tools	200	
	<hr/>	
	11,000	49,000.00

He estimates that with such an outlay, they could operate sixteen furnaces, each producing one hundred fifty bushels of salt a week. He also estimates that there will always be two furnaces standing idle for repairs. Therefore, they could figure on only fourteen furnaces producing one hundred fifty bushels each, per week, or 109,200 bushels a year, at seventy-five cents, or a total gross of \$81,900 for the year.

Just why Coffee and Jackson did not lease the springs is not known. It may have been that the lease given to Bell in the summer of 1803 ran for three years. If this were the case, they were simply a few months too late. It is the opinion of the writer of this chapter that the latter was the case, for the Act of Congress of March 3, 1803, provided a maximum of three years time for a lease to run. Bell operated the Salines until the end of 1806. I hardly think there was any personal or political animosity between General Jackson and Governor Harrison as early as this.

At any rate, our Tennessee friends dropped the matter until 1806. It may have been that "Old Hickory" determined to go over the head of the territorial Governor and deal directly with the Secretary of the Treasury, Albert Gallatin, for on Dec. 19, 1806, Gallatin wrote him:

"Sir.

Your letter of the 19th also has been received by this day's mail.

Governor Harrison has been authorized, by instructions of the President, to lease the Saline near the Wabash for a further term of Years. The point most recommended to him is to obtain an increase in the quantity of Salt to be made. For it is apprehended that unless the quantity be more than sufficient to meet all the demands, every regula-

tion to ensure a diminution of prices will prove ineffectual.

I have the honor to be respectfully,

Sir

Your obedient servant

Albert Gallatin"

The General's ever faithful "Man Friday" was again on the job. When one considers the tremendous amount of traveling done by John Coffee, he begins to wonder when he had time to keep notes. In his note book for 1806-07, he again drew up an estimate of expenses in the salt business. These figures are much the same as his earlier estimate, except they call for more wagons.

His ever faithful note book is also a source of information on the work then going on at the wells. He reports: "520 kettles, is now boiling at the Wabash Saline, they will boil about 22 gallons, each cost about \$11.50 at Saline."

"10 furnaces produce, in good weather, about 200 bushels of salt. Each furnace takes fifteen waggons to haul wood, 30 men to attend kettles, 6 men to draw water, 6 boys and six horses for drawing, 40 men to cut wood."

With this final entry, the Coffee Papers as a source of information run out. At numerous other places, the research student finds a word here, a figure there, that has to do with the salt business but these could have meaning only for their author, now long since "passed on to his reward." Why the second attempt to buy into the industry failed must be left to the realm of speculation. We do know that Jackson was soon to turn his energies to another and entirely different field of endeavor. However, as we drive by the deserted marsh, once the site of the bustling prosperous "Nigger Well," and drive on to an opening in the underbrush to see

the "Old Slave House," with its tall majestic columns, perched on its lonely hill top, we cannot help wondering what would it be like today had Old Hickory bought the "Nigger Well." Perhaps the "Old Slave House" would have been the site of the Hermitage, for surely his beloved Rachel would have followed the old warrior, even to the ends of the earth. But had he moved to the Illinois country, would he have ever been the "Old Warrior?"

Even though the making of salt was the region's biggest single pioneer industry, there were many others of equal interest. So far as interest is concerned, there is no part of the study of history so interesting as the study of the every day life of the common people.

The earliest white settlers to come into the region that was to become Saline County, followed a well-beaten path of migration. From North Carolina and Virginia, into the hill country of Tennessee, to Kentucky, to Southern Illinois; they were looking for the kind of country from which they came. Therefore, the rich fertile prairies of Central Illinois held no charm for these pioneers. They chose, instead, the hills of the south. They liked the oak to build their houses, and the hickory to smoke their hams and bacon. In fact, the early white settlers followed, roughly, the same pattern of migration as did the Indians. Some of the first Indians of the region of what is now Saline County were the Shawnee Indians. The route of migration of a part of them is easily traced from the "parent hive," in the Cumberland Valley of Tennessee, by their mode of burial in stone-lined graves.

The first objective point they sought in the new country north of the Ohio was the Saline Springs. These Indians excelled others in Southern Illinois in domestic arts, sculpture, flint chipping, and pottery making. Centuries later, this same route was to be followed by the

Scotch-Irish settlers from the Cumberland valley into Southern Illinois. Unless human nature underwent a tremendous change, both groups were seeking the same things.

What sort of people were these pioneers who pushed northwest to make new homes in the area of the Wabash Salines? Like all true pioneers, they were for the most part either poor or in moderate circumstances, but always in search of something better for themselves and their children.

That these settlers from the South favored slavery goes without saying. Of course, it was illegal to have slaves in the new State of Illinois, yet many did. Others crossed over the Mississippi into Missouri. That the vast majority was too poor to ever hope to own slaves of their own seems to have made no difference. It was the principle of the thing. But many found that they didn't have to move beyond the borders of the state to have their negro servants. Those who could afford it found a way. Every issue of the *Illinois Gazette* from 1819-1826 carried from four to ten announcements like or similar to the following:

"A Handsome Reward: Ran away or was kidnapped off the plantation of the subscriber, on Monday, the 4th inst. a bright Mulatto Boy, named, Madison George; about 11 years of age, small of his age; his face somewhat marked from a burn; and sore eyes. Had on when he disappeared a muslin shirt, and tow linen pantaloons. When spoken to, is apt to smile.

"I will give the Eighty acres of Land that I now reside on, which is my all, and is clear of all incumbrance, for the recovery of the Boy, and conviction of the Thief—or \$10 for the Boy alone.

John Lockhart

Gallatin County, Ill. Sept. 8, 1826."

This southern element is well illustrated in the Illinois Legislature of 1833. That year, the Legislature passed an expression of warm-hearted kindness and sympathy for South Carolina, in the Tariff Controversy.

At this time the legislature consisted of ninety persons. "50 farmers, 17 lawyers, 10 merchants, 7 mechanics, 2 physicians, 1 surveyor, 1 clerk, 1 salt maker, and 9 preachers."

"4 natives of South Carolina; 7 natives of North Carolina; 2 natives of Georgia; 16 natives of Virginia; 26 natives of Kentucky; 3 natives of Tennessee; 3 natives of Massachusetts; 9 natives of Pennsylvania; 10 natives of New York; 2 natives of Ohio; 1 native of Connecticut; 2 natives of Ireland, and 1 native of Illinois."

Once they had settled in the new country, their life was very much like life anywhere on the American frontier. The early log cabin was about sixteen to eighteen feet square, and when an increase in wealth or family made it expedient, another was built about ten feet to the side and joined to the original by a "dog walk." In summer, as well as in winter, this walk was air conditioned. For this reason, in summer it served as a dining room. The doors of the cabins usually opened onto the "dog walk." A loft of split boards was laid over the cabin six or seven feet high. This space was storage space, or, as was usually the case, the bedroom for the boys. The floors were usually puncheons split from the hackberry tree.

Schoolhouses were usually just like the single log cabin with a board shelf used for desks and a bench for seats. The schools probably rendered greater service as social centers than as seats of learning. For then, as now, the social center and the forming of social contacts was all important in the "American way of life." The schoolhouse was often the scene of spelling

bees, literary society meetings, political speakings, square dances, and protracted meetings. A pioneer boy, when asked what part of school he liked best, gave the same answer his great-great-grandson gave in 1947—"recess." At recess, with forty to seventy children dismissed at once, no supervised play program was necessary. They enjoyed games such as bull pen, or long town, (both ball games); prisoner's, or stink base; foot racing; high jump; "far" jump; hop, step and jump; wrestling, the square hold, the side hold, the breeches hold, Indian hug, catch as catch can, or just plain fighting.

Recreations and amusements were derived from the work that needed to be done. Often, while the men worked in the fields, the women spread a bountiful meal on improvised tables, and after the meal, stories were told or discussion of the political questions of the day took place. "Barn raisin's," "quilting bees," or "husking bees" were big events in the neighborhood. These accomplished work that was necessary, yet furnished wholesome recreation at the same time. After work was finished, "merry makin'" was the order of the day. Music of some sort, often a "fiddle," furnished the accompaniment for old and young to dance and sing far into the night.

It was necessary that one family assist their neighbor in order that all the work of clearing land, planting crops, harvesting the hay and grain, and keeping the establishments in repair be accomplished in the allotted and due time. There were few people in those days available to be employed to work for others. Every person was busily engaged around his or her own home.

However, if misfortune overtook some settler, all the neighbors were quick to join together to harvest the unfortunate one's crops, rebuild his lost building, or do whatever was necessary to insure that his future livelihood be not seriously or permanently impaired.

Hunting was also a favorite pastime. The area in and around Saline County abounded in the usual game—wild turkey, deer, squirrels, and the like. Then, as now, the squirrels seem to have been the most abundant. On September 7, 1828, the *Illinois Gazette* published the following paragraph on squirrels:

“We understand from the farmers that great havoc is everywhere made and making by these mischievous animals—They were never seen before. A gentleman of veracity informed us, a day or two ago, that he killed upwards of 400 in and about his field in one day, and that the next morning they appeared as numerous as ever. They are seen constantly swimming backwards and forth across the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and are killed by the boys and sportsmen, in great numbers, at their landings. It is not a fact to us in the natural history of these animals, that they should swim rivers from a mile to a mile and a half in width, but it is every day verified by the eyes of our inhabitants.”

In any pioneer society, the practice of medicine is usually the business of the mother of the family. Many were the “home remedies” of earlier Saline County.

“For Mad Dog Bite: Boil Poke Root in sweet milk, until perfectly done—and of this preparation take every morning, successively for nine mornings, a common sized tea-cupfull.”

Thomas J. Boaz, who lived, in 1829, about twenty miles west of Shawneetown, and who gave the above “remedy,” said of it, “This quantity, given to man or beast, will to his certain knowledge, prevent the accession of the disease,” and he adds that, “he has known the same preparation to effect a cure, when given freely, even after the first paroxysm.”

Mr. Boaz also recommended polk root roasted and put into whiskey as a certain cure for rheumatism. The

dose, a wine-glass full three times a day. He also recommended:

“For Intoxication: The body is to be laid on a bed, etc. with the head a little raised, the neck-cloth &c removed.”

“For Drowning: 1. Convey carefully the body, with the head and shoulders raised to the nearest convenient house.

2. Strip and dry the body: clean the mouth and nostrils.

3. Place young children between two persons in a warm bed.

4. An adult, lay the body of adult on a blanket or bed,—in a warm chamber in winter; exposed to the sun in the summer.

5. To be gently rubbed with flannel, a heated warming pan covered lightly moved over the back and spine.

6. To restore breathing, introduce the pipe of a pair of bellows into one nostril; the other nostril and mouth closed inflate the lungs till the breast be a little raised; the mouth and nostrils must then be let free; repeat the process until life appears.”

Many of the so-called home remedies were sound medical practice, others pure nonsense and superstition.

Pioneer law bore a close resemblance to the law of the place from which the people had recently come.

A negro, Indian, or mulatto could not be a witness in any court against a white person. Persons having one-fourth part negro blood were adjudged to be mulattoes. The rights of suffrage, holding office, serving on juries, and in the militia were reserved for whites. A person who brought a slave into Illinois for purpose of freeing him was required to file a bond to prevent the freed-man from becoming a public charge. A free negro, migrating to the new state, had to file with the circuit clerk of the county, where he was settling, evidence of his freedom

and a bond with security for his maintenance and good behavior. If he failed to do so, he was treated as a runaway slave.

Divorces were granted by the courts of chancery. Besides the usual cause of adultery, habitual drunkenness, extreme and repeated cruelty, and absence for two years were grounds for divorce.

Persons who had been engaged in dueling, as principals, seconds, or accessories, were disqualified from holding any office of profit, trust, or emolument, civil or military, besides being punished for murder, if death resulted within one year from the time of the duel.

That the region was fast becoming sophisticated is shown by the following from the *Illinois Gazette*, July 4, 1829:

“How to Bathe”

“Reader, we are disposed to take some care of your body as well as your mind. Be duly thankful, therefore, for the advice we are about to give you.

“The spring hath come, ‘refreshing earth; reviving all but man.’ Your headaches, and you feel occasionally drowsy, languid and uncomfortable. Take a WARM BATH: it will relieve you in an hour, but take it in the proper way. When ’tis done, ’twere well it were not done quickly, for in this lies the mischief of warm bathing. A man generally posts to a bath as if he were carrying an express or running away from a broom stick. He is out of breath and in a perspiration on his arrival—he undresses himself in a great hurry, souses his body in the hot water, kicks about for five minutes, emerges with every pore open, puts on his garments, looks complacently in the mirror, and thinks he has taken a warm bath. No such thing; he has taken nothing but a cold. In one hour he begins to sneeze and the next day he commences coughing and cursing the bath. Philosophy

grieves over his folly, but will not relieve his nose and lungs. Why did the bath give him a cold? Because he was in perspiration when he went into the water, which said perspiration was increased by the heat, and checked as soon as raised into the colder medium of the air. The order of nature must be reversed to prevent a man from taking cold under such circumstances. Now, reader, we will tell you how to take a bath. In the first place, pay your note if it be due; or if you cannot do that, let it be protested and think no more about it. Tranquility of mind is all important in rendering a warm bath beneficial. Walk leisurely to the house of ablution and disrobe yourself with moderate haste. You may have the water hot enough to parboil you, if you choose; that is left to your own taste. In with you—and to beguile the time, read a newspaper or smoke a cigar. In about half an hour the water will cool to nearly the temperature of the air, and you will have gone gradually, and safely through half a dozen climates. You will have left the torrid for the temperate zone. Then let in the cold water very slowly, almost drop by drop, and in the course of twenty minutes you will find yourself in a cold bath. Your pores will have closed gradually and moderately; your sensations will be exquisite during the process; and you will feel strength and elasticity in every limb. You emerge from the cold water into the warm air, dry your body thoroughly with a coarse towel, and feel like a new man. It is an impossibility for you to take cold; if you do, you are at liberty to come and box our ears for giving you bad advice.”

The region might be becoming interested in bathing but it was still a long way from the “modern way of life” one finds here today. When the western half of Gallatin County became the new County of Saline in 1847, the region was still frontier, and if we can believe old

settlers, remained so for some time. In fact, the first courthouse and jail at Raleigh were built of logs.

In 1855, F. F. Johnson moved into a double log cabin north of Raleigh. One gathers from reading his book on his boyhood that all the houses were of logs.

Writing of the same year, he tells of the "millions and millions of Wild Pigeons" that came in and destroyed crops. "When they went to roost they were so numerous that they would break large limbs off the trees and bend small trees to the ground."

Nor was the mail service any less primitive. We learn that in January, 1864, the contractor who was to carry the mail from Raleigh to Golconda couldn't do so because of the snow. In fact, no mail had reached Raleigh in over a month.

If such was life in the county seat town, one hardly can imagine any more modern conveniences in the rural areas.

No doubt in the year 2047, we who celebrate the one hundredth birthday of our county will seem as out of date as those who founded it, in 1847, appear to us.

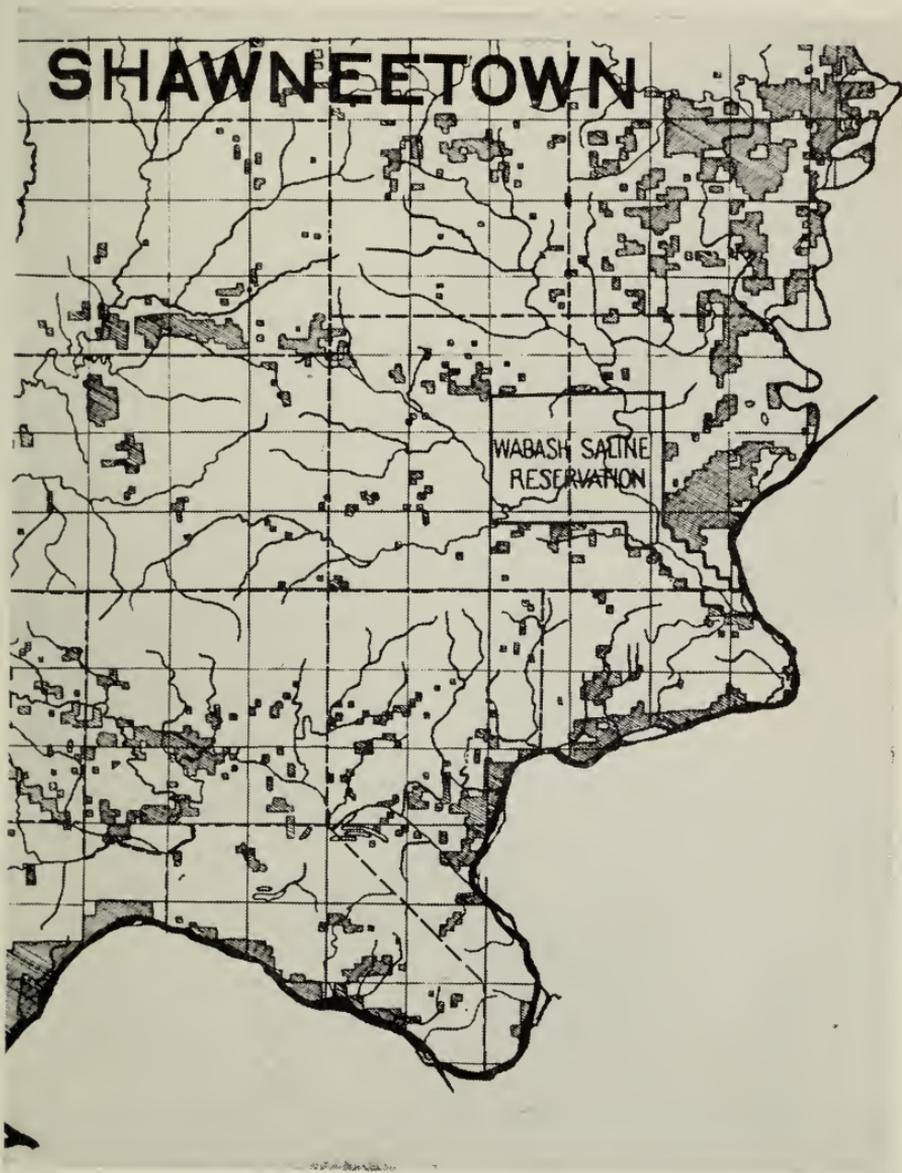
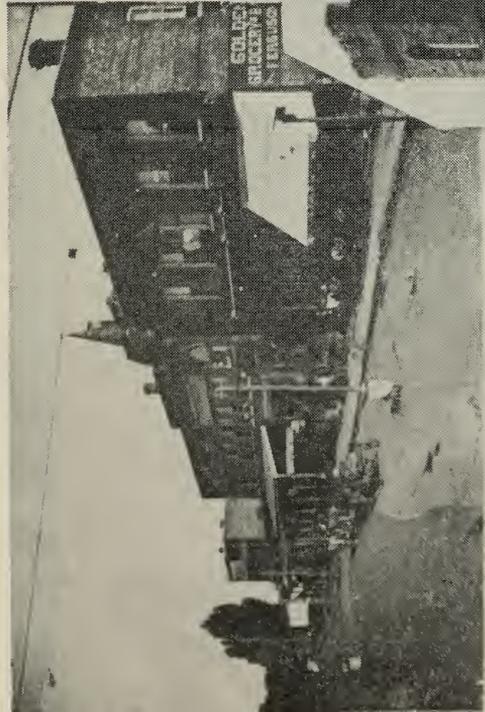


PHOTO COURTESY ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY

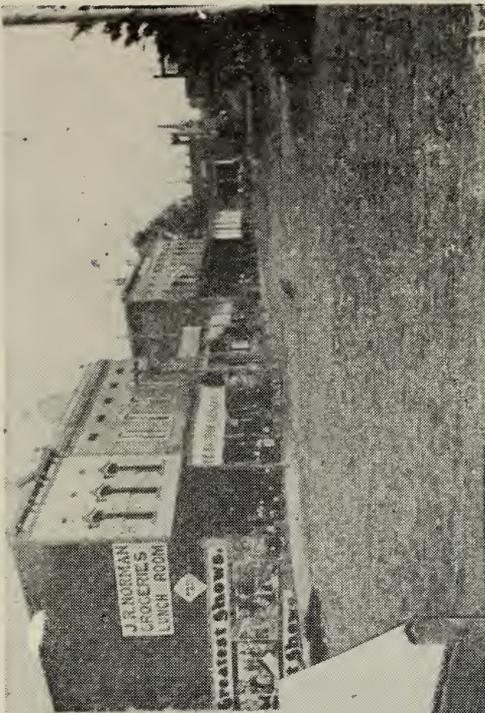
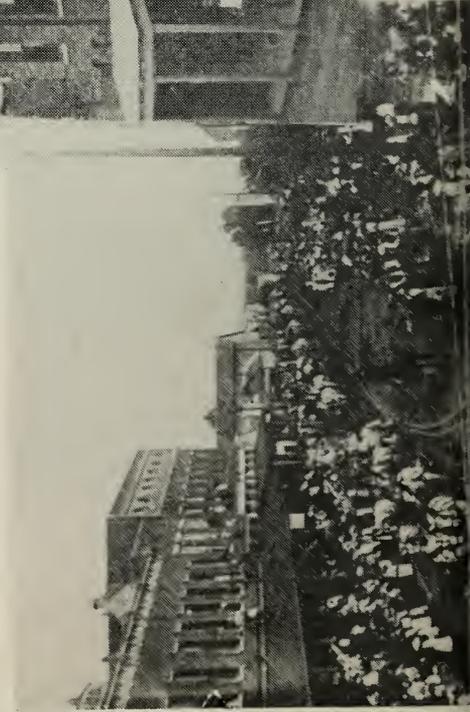
Land Entries in 1818 in Shawneetown Land Office District. Map also shows boundaries of Wabash Saline Reservation.

Early
Harrisburg
Scenes

PHOTOS
MR. AND MRS.
JAMES SCOTT



Poplar Street, looking East.
(Below) Locust Street, looking East.



Vine Street, looking South.
(Below) Main Street, looking South.



Old
City
Hall



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Store and Postoffice Building at Somerset.



PHOTO COURTESY BERNICE RELYEA

Raleigh Street Scene.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

President of the United States of America,

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

KNOW YE, That Thomas Cummings of the County of Perry, State of Illinois, having deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, a Certificate of the Register of the LAND OFFICE at Springfield, Illinois, whereby it appears that full payment has been made for

1835 1/4 of 1/4 of 1/4 of the North West 1/4 of Section Twenty in Township 17 North, Range 7 East containing Eighty acres:

of the Lands directed to be sold at *Shannon* ~~Shannon~~ *Shannon* ~~Shannon~~ by the Acts of Congress, relative to the disposal of the public Lands in **ILLINOIS**, THERE IS GUARANTEED, by the United States, in pursuance of the Acts of Congress in that case provided, unto the said *Thomas Cummings* and to his heirs the *Half* ~~Half~~ *Half* ~~Half~~ lot or section of Land above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said *Half* ~~Half~~ *Half* ~~Half~~ section of Land, with the appurtenances, unto the said *Thomas Cummings* and to his heirs and assigns forever.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these letters to be made PATENT, and the seal of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand at the city of Washington, the *Twenty second* ~~Twenty second *Twenty second* ~~Twenty second~~ day of *Shannon* ~~Shannon~~ *Shannon* ~~Shannon~~ in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *thirty six* ~~thirty six~~ *thirty six* ~~thirty six~~, and of the Independence of the United States of America the *Eighty* ~~Eighty~~ *Eighty* ~~Eighty~~.~~

BY THE REGISTER:

J. S. Adams.

Recorded in Volume

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Commissioner of the General Land Office

PHOTO COURTESY MRS. WILLIE CUMMINS

Early Land Grant to farm in Mountain Township.

Peter Elliott	From	December 10th	1829
John Elliott	"	May 17th	1832
Charles Elliott	"	January 24th	1835
Minerva Elliott	"	March 15th	1840
Sarah Elliott	"	February 24th	1842
Emy Elliott	"	August 31st	1845
Mary Elliott	"	January 11th	1849
Samuel Elliott	"	8th	1851
George Alfred Elliott	"	30	1855

The above named persons are free Colored persons living in Jackson County and State of Illinois and known as such by the interrogatories

M. D. Elliott
 Clinton Guard
 William H. Stephenson
 Margaret S. Stephenson

I find the record of Neal & his wife of their freedom but in register of this Office
 1843 or 1845

PHOTO COURTESY NELLIE BLACKWELL

Certificate of Freedom of Neal Elliott's Children.

III.

Early Settlements in Saline County

By Talitha E. Aaron

THERE were very few settlers in the southern part of what is now Illinois before the land office at Shawneetown was opened, and the first land entries made. In 1818, the year that Illinois became a state, there were only about ninety families living in the western side of Gallatin County, in that part which became Saline. The first land entries in Saline County were made in 1814, by John Wren, on the southeast quarter of Section 8, Township 10, Range 7 East, in what is now Somerset Township, and by Hankerson Rude, on the northwest quarter of Section 19, Township 10, Range 7 East.

A study of the early entries of land shows that the pioneers grouped themselves together in settlements in fairly high places. One reason for this was for protection against the Indians and wild animals; another was in order to be above high water, as much of the land was subject to overflow in the rainy season.

There were four principal settlements which are considered to have been the first farms opened to cultivation. These four farms were in different parts of the country, and were:

- Hankerson Rude's, in Township 10, Range 7;
- Hampton Pankey's, in Township 9, Range 5;
- William Crawford's, in Township 8, Range 6; and
- Francis Jordan's, in Township 7, Range 5.

There were several blockhouses to which the settlers could retreat in time of danger from the Indians. One of these was on the farm of Hankerson Rude, another on the farm of Coleman Brown, near where Eldorado now stands, and another near Brushy Church.

These blockhouses were built square, and constructed from hewn logs, which were assembled with great care in order that there could be no opening through which the hand or weapon of an enemy could be thrust. The

doors usually were made of thick puncheons, and were held in place with heavy wooden beams. At a height of about seven or eight feet, so as to be above the head of a man, there were port-holes on each side for firing on the enemy. There were two stories to these houses, and the second story projected over the first in order to have openings for rifles in the floor of the second story, through which to shoot any Indian who tried to force his way into the building. These houses for defense usually were built in a clearing, or at the edge of a natural prairie. If it were necessary to use a wooded place, the timber was cut for quite a distance on each side, in order that an attacking Indian, or band of Indians, could not be hidden from the sight of the pioneers inside the building, or that a fire that might be set to the brush by the foe would not consume the blockhouse.

Stories have been handed down of two attacks at the Coleman Brown blockhouse. One, when the barking of the dogs kept for protection, apparently frightened the attackers away, leaving their foot-prints in the frost to be found the next morning. The second occasion for alarm came while the men were in the dense forest trying to recover their horses that had strayed too far from the settlement. Darkness fell while they were yet some miles from Brown's, and the men decided to make camp for the night. The men heard the click of rifles and actually saw the Indians moving through the woods. They decided it would be better to run for safety than to fight, since they had no way to estimate the size of the band of attackers. Coleman Brown, his brother, and other associates built this house in the spring of 1815, even though his land was not entered until January 1, 1816.

Garris Ridge was one of the earliest settlements in Southern Illinois. Sykes Garris and his bride are said

to have settled there from Kentucky, several years before Illinois was admitted to statehood. The story goes that a young man in backwoods attire came through the dense timber on the bank of the Saline River, leading an old gray mare upon which rode his bride of a few weeks, together with all their worldly possessions. They were headed for Kaskaskia, but the game was so plentiful and the territory so fertile, they decided to make this their home. The following morning, they started the work of building a log cabin. It stood on the south bank of the Saline River, about three miles northeast of the present village of Stonefort. Other settlers came to the same site, and many log cabins began to take shape. In 1830, a water mill was put into operation, and the settlement became a bustling industrial community. Nothing but the old mill foundation remains today to mark the spot of this early commercial town.

Somerset, a community on the side of Eagle Mountain, was possibly the first, and for a time, the largest, settlement in Saline County, even though there was no postoffice until 1851. The land was very fertile, and the high ground was desirable as it did not flood during the rainy seasons. It was in this vicinity that Hankerson Rude built his blockhouse, and Aydelott put his grist mill in operation, at an early date. The location of this settlement was in Section 17, Township 10, Range 7 East, and is one of the most beautiful and interesting in the county. At the top of Eagle Mountain is the Old Stone Face, looking out over the Saline Valley and Still-house Hollow. A few miles northeast of this beautiful spot is the famous Cave of Saline County, in the side of Cave Hill. One-half mile from Somerset was located the only silver mine ever in operation in the county. It was worked prior to 1870, but was found unprofitable because the ore paid only eighteen dollars to the ton.

Lakeview, a settlement of colored people, formerly known as the "Pond Settlement," is also one of the earliest settlements in what is now Saline County. It is located just southeast of the village of Carrier Mills. It begins about one-half mile from the village and extends to the south fork of the Saline River, consisting of about four square miles.

The first people to settle in this area were Joseph Cole, Zachariah (Byrd) Taborn, Kimber Taborn, and John Mitchell. They migrated from North Carolina, in covered wagons drawn by oxen, shortly after the War of 1812. Although these people were colored, they and their families were not slaves at that time. Near the middle of the nineteenth century, they bought the land from the government.

Later, the Allens, Blackwells, Evans, and other families migrated from various places and settled in this region.

At that time, a large area of swamp land, known as the "Cypress Pond," bounded the settlement on the west side. On the northeast and east, it was bounded by what was known as the "Open Pond." Thus, the area was called the "Pond Settlement."

Within the last fifty years, a new school was built and officially named "Lakeview." Later, the swamps were drained, and the settlement is now known as "Lakeview" to everyone except the older people, who remember the swamps and mosquitoes.

The separation of Saline County from Gallatin extended over a period of almost eight months, in the year 1847. The act of the legislature authorizing a vote on the change was approved February 25, 1847, and the election was held on the first Monday in August. The vote was favorable to the separation, and the administrative details of the change were completed on

December 10, 1847. A threat to the continuation of the separation was raised when the legislature, in 1851, passed an act purporting to combine the territory into one county of Gallatin, but this was avoided by a test case in the Supreme Court of Illinois.

The county commissioners court, on December 7, 1847, established precincts, and appointed voting places and election judges for Saline County.

The oldest postoffice in the county was Curran. It was established on September 23, 1823, and George McCreery was the first postmaster. It was located thirteen miles northwest of Equality, and is now thought to be near the present village of Raleigh. The name of the postoffice was changed to Raleigh on October 27, 1847, and Archibald Sloan was the postmaster.

Gallatia, (the spelling was changed to Galatia, June 20, 1892), was surveyed by Deputy Surveyor Benjamin Thomas, of Gallatin County, at the request of David Upchurch and William I. Gatewood, on November 1, 1836, more than ten years before the platting of Raleigh. It is located in the northeast quarter of Section 11, and the northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 8, Range 5.

The early merchants were J. Choisser, Doctor H. R. Pierce, and Moses P. McGehee. In 1856, H. Webber started a merchandising business and became the leading dealer in tobacco. By 1858, Galatia was the center of the tobacco industry of Southern Illinois, and over one million and a half pounds of tobacco were prepared for the market annually.

The postoffice was established on February 3, 1837, with James Choisser as postmaster.

The *Harrisburg Chronicle* of November 27, 1896, says of this settlement, "Galatia, situated about ten miles northwest of Harrisburg, on the Illinois Central railway. . . . The town is beautifully located, is surrounded by

fertile and prosperous country, and its citizens are hospitable and enterprising.”

The county commissioners court met in the settlement of Raleigh, on October 11, 1847, and selected the name of Raleigh as the county seat of Saline County.

Archibald Sloan was appointed surveyor, and was authorized to employ assistants to lay off the town on land which had been donated by Andrew Musgrave and Hannah Crawford. It is in Section 15, Township 8, Range 6.

Fifteen blocks were subdivided, making forty-six lots. The center block was reserved for a public square. The streets were sixty-six feet wide. The lots were offered for sale on November 15, 1847. Money obtained from the sale of these lots was to be used to finance the construction of the courthouse. James M. Gaston got the contract for building the courthouse. This building was a two-story, log building, twenty by twenty-four feet in size. The rooms for the county officers were on the second floor, and the lower rooms were used for holding court. On the south side of the building was the judge's bench, which was very crude. It was patterned after the pulpits used in churches in those days, and was beautiful neither in design nor construction. However, it served the purpose of elevating the judge above the crowd. The cost of the courthouse was approximately five hundred dollars. It was received by the commissioners in June, 1848. It stood where the Ed Mitchell home now is in Raleigh, just south of the Barnes and Gore store. These two buildings are located on a part of the original “center block,” reserved for the first courthouse. Five years after the log courthouse was built, the contract was let to Jarvis Pierce for the building of a brick structure, which was to cost fifty-five hundred dollars. On April 8, nine months after the contract was given, this second building was received as

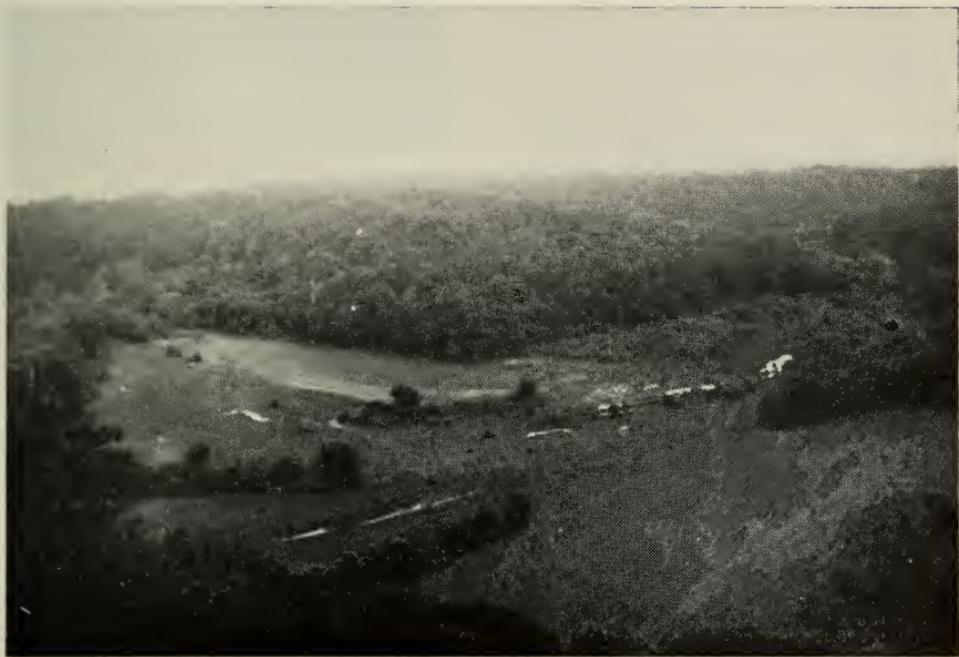


PHOTO COURTESY FLORENCE HANCOCK.

Little Saline River Valley taken from the Old Stone Fort.

Eldorado
City Hall.



Harrisburg
City Hall.



PHOTOS COURTESY JOHN FOSTER



Carrier Mills
City Hall.

a courthouse. It was not to be used as such for very long for the county seat soon was moved to Harrisburg. This building then was used as the schoolhouse.

In December, following the completion of the first courthouse in June 1848, the jail was finished. It was a two-story, log building. The logs were required to be ten inches in size or they could not be used. The inside walls were covered with hard wood board, with a heavy nail driven in each square foot of the surface. The lower story was used to hold those who were convicted of a felony, while the upper story was used for lesser criminals.

The first family to settle in the new village was that of Alfred Aldrich, from Posy County, Indiana. Aldrich built a log house and kept a small store.

William H. Parish, a young attorney from Danville, Illinois, moved to Raleigh on Saturday, April 8, 1847. The next settler was James Baker, who built a log house, and kept a store. William Frizzel, a merchant, built the first frame house in Raleigh. Osborn Powell and Henry W. Goodrich were the first blacksmiths. A newspaper item of January 17, 1860, tells of the death of John Choisser, aged eighty-one, who died at his home in Raleigh. He was born in Kaskaskia, in 1779. The item related that he perhaps was the only man of his age at that time who was born in Illinois.

Raleigh, as well as Galatia, was a large tobacco center. There were as many as seven barns, and a great many tons were shipped each year to the big tobacco factories.

Robinson's Ford was a settlement that rivaled Raleigh for the first county seat. It was situated where the little village of Muddy is today, and was close enough to the center of the county that, had it been chosen instead of Raleigh, it probably would have remained the county seat until the present time.

Independence was surveyed and platted by Archibald Sloan, at the request of Stephen E. Mitchell, on November 29, 1847. It is located in Section 15, Township 10, Range 6. The name was changed later to Mitchellsville. This little settlement developed into quite a flourishing community, and was the home of Doctor John H. Lee and Doctor J. W. Mitchell. One of the first hotels in the county was started at Mitchellsville, and was a popular way-station for weary travelers on the road to Saline County. It was the shipping point farthest west on the Saline River for flat boats and barges.

Harrisburg was selected as a site for a new town in 1852, by a committee who met at Liberty Church. The people living in the southern end of the county thought the county seat should be more centrally located than Raleigh, which was within six miles of the northern boundary of the county, and planned to make Harrisburg the county seat. Four men were chosen to buy five acres of land each for a town site. These men were John Pankey, John Cain, James P. Yandall, and James A. Harris. The twenty acres were surveyed by Archibald Sloan, county surveyor, on May 28, 1853. There were, in the original plat, only two streets—Main Street, running north and south on the section line, and Poplar Street, running east and west on the half-section line.

At the time of the survey, there was no one living on the twenty acres set apart for the town site. James Harris had a saw-mill on what was known as "Crusoe's Island," which was the center of the new village. The first building was a log house, in which James Feazel had a grocery store. It was on the south side of the square, where the City National Bank building now stands. Doctor Mitchell built the first store building on the east side of the square, and in 1854, started sell-

ing goods. Valentine Rathbone moved his drug store from Raleigh, in 1859, and several other business men followed his lead.

Harrisburg became the county seat in 1859, and Jo Robinson became the first postmaster. He was appointed February 28, 1856. Harrisburg was incorporated by a special charter, approved February 21, 1861. An amendment to this charter, approved March 26, 1869, provided that the boundaries of the town should include the west half of the Section 16, Township 9, Range 6, East, of the third principal meridian. The population, at this time, was five hundred. A city organization was adopted May 20, 1889, by a vote of the citizens.

One of the earliest business men in Harrisburg was John Tate. Shortly after the laying out of the village in 1853, he erected a clapboard store building on the southeast corner of Poplar and Main Streets, and opened a general store. He constructed a home on the south end of the lot, at the site where the Grand Theatre now stands. The store building faced Poplar Street on the north, while the residence faced Main Street on the west. Later, Tate sold the store, and followed his occupation of a watchmaker. He owned, at that time, the farm later to be known as the Wilson farm, at the south side of the present cemetery.

July 20, 1859, John W. Mitchell and Robert Mick were awarded a contract to build a courthouse in the new county seat. The building was to be a "two-story, brick with four doric columns incased in plaster on the front, standing near together, and supporting the roof of a portico, in which two spiral staircases wind up to the Circuit Court room above."

This contract included a jail, and full settlement for these buildings was made at the December, 1861, term of county court. The courthouse was used for about

forty years before it was decided a new building was needed. The original part of the present building was completed in 1905, and an addition made in 1938. A new jail was built in 1913, and is being repaired at the present time.

South America was a settlement with a postoffice in 1853, and was located just south of Bankston Creek in Section 19, Township 9, Range 5, very near to the Williamson County line.

Whitesville, once an important trading place on the Saline River, was surveyed and platted by Martin D. Gillett, county surveyor of Saline County, on December 30, 1856. It was located in the west side of Section 15, Township 10, Range 7. The little village received its name from Benjamin White, who owned and operated a mill there. Robert Mick, wealthy merchant, organizer of the Saline County Bank, and later president of the First National Bank of Harrisburg, laid the foundation in Whitesville for the fortune he amassed during his lifetime. He dealt in merchandise and handled everything sold on the market, including tobacco. His goods were shipped to New Orleans by flat boat or barges via the Saline, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers.

Saline City was surveyed by T. A. Jones, deputy surveyor, on May 3, 1858, at the request of J. B. Maghee and Willie Pinnell. It was in Section 16, Township 8, Range 7, East of the third principal meridian. Many lots and blocks were numbered and the village looked large on paper, but it never attained much importance as a business point. Some small businesses, a dry goods store and a saloon, were about the extent of its enterprises. It was one mile north of Eldorado, which now is the present site of the Eldorado Township High School grounds.

Elderredo, which now is Eldorado, was named for

its founders—Judge Samuel Elder, his son, William Elder, his grandson, Francis Marion Elder, and a neighbor, William Reed. It is in Section 21, Township 8, Range 7, East of the third principal meridian. The surveyor was Martin D. Gillett, and the plat was made on May 24, 1858. The postoffice was established on December 8, 1858, and Nathaniel Bramlet was the first postmaster. Early Elderedo had only three streets laid out. The State Road became State Street, Walnut Street, and West Street. The business houses were on State and Walnut Streets. Hiram Brown had the first drygoods store on State Street. Tom Vaughn later built a general store, as did Cox and Elder, all on State Street. Major William Elder built the first hotel. It furnished lodging for those who were employed in building the railroads through the village. This settlement, by 1896, could boast of exceptional railroad facilities—The Illinois Central, The Louisville and Nashville, and The Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati and St. Louis. Like several other villages, when the railroad company placed the name on the station, the name was spelled Eldorado, instead of Elderedo, and it has been known by that name since that time. East Eldorado begins at First Street, and was added after the original village was platted. The original village was incorporated, in 1870, with the following board of trustees: William Elder, president; James S. Neal, W. C. Wiedemann, J. N. Elder, and G. L. Eubanks, members.

The village of Barnum was laid off in Township 10, Range 5, in 1858. It was some three miles east of Old Stonefort. The enterprise was promoted by Jo Robinson and John Hancock. It was on the old railroad survey, and Robinson and Hancock had great hopes, with this well chosen name, for a prosperous community. It was laid out in the woods, and there it remained. No

buildings were ever completed, although the construction of one or two frame buildings was started. The village existed on paper only, and assessments on lots in the town plat cluttered up the tax books for many years.

Stonefort, which lies in the southwestern part of Saline County, takes its name from an old fort built many, many years ago, by whom, no one knows. In research that was done by A. I. Kelly, we find the following from a surveyor's notes of 1807, recorded in the State Auditor's office in Springfield, Illinois: "The above ancient fortification is found in Township 10 S. Range 5, E, and Section 34. It is situated on the most elevated point of a high hill. Its form is that of a half moon and built of stone. Time has long since demolished the walls which must have been erected at immense labors. Judging from the quantity of stone, the walls must have been at least six feet thick and as many in height. On the north and east sides, the hill gradually descends, and almost as far as the eye can reach, the distant hills may be discovered. On the south and hollow side, is a cleft of rocks which descend about sixty feet perpendicularly. At the distance of a few rods from the bottom of the rocks, winds a branch of the Saline running its course parallel to the rock. On the west, a ridge inclines toward the south and soon becomes lost in the valley. The materials must have been brought from the creek below, as there is no appearance of stone on the hill nearby. In the middle of the enclosed ground is an elevated pile of stones. That great length of time has elapsed since its erection is evident from the growth of timber which is as large here as on the adjoining ground."

The old village of Stonefort was laid out June 25, 1858, on land belonging to Jo Robinson and A. Vickers. This was in Section 32, Township 10, Range 5. It was

a little southeast of the present village of Stonefort. In the original plat, there were sixty-four lots, fifty by one hundred fifty feet, and the streets were eighty feet wide. Jo Robinson's cypress log house, built in 1831, was the only one inside the plat.

The next house built was in 1858, by Oscar Pinnell. In 1859, J. M. Joiner built the first frame house, two stories high. That same year, Axel and Charles Nyberg opened the first store.

When the Cairo and Vincennes Railroad was completed, most of the houses, both business and residence, were moved over to the new location on the railroad, and the new location was named Bolton. The name was taken from a small village just across the Williamson County line. The railroad company, again, changed it back to Stonefort, but it was not legally changed until June 11, 1934. From a newspaper clipping, dated May 17, 1934, we find the following article, "Citizens Desire to Change Village Name of Bolton. The incorporated village of Bolton, better known as 'Stonefort,' will soon no longer exist if the village board and the residents there are successful in the proposed change of the name of the village from Bolton to Stonefort. The village board will have a meeting at which remonstrances will be heard in the proposed change. . . ." In a news item, dated June 16, 1934, we find the following: "In their meeting this week, the village board of Bolton changed the name of their village to Stonefort, as it is better known. They had published legal notices of this action and there was no protest against the change."

The old village of Stonefort is now called "Old Town."

The present Stonefort was surveyed and platted by James W. Russell, October 29, 1872, at the request of J. V. Trammel, A. Vickers, B. S. Young, and C. S. Blackman. The streets were laid out parallel to the railroad.

The original survey divided the plat into twenty-four blocks, each block containing four lots, with necessary streets and alleys. The first business house was erected in the new town by Alexander Vickers. It was moved from the old Stonefort village. A great many people moved their families and businesses to the new town because of the advantages of the railroad. The first new building was erected by W. H. Ridgeway. Bozarth and Johnson had the first drug store. Alexander Vickers was the first postmaster.

The original village of Texas City was surveyed by Martin D. Gillett, on September 8, 1859, in Section 36, Township 7, Range 7, at the request of John W. Cox and Solomon Webster. Several small businesses flourished there for a short time, or until 1872. A survey for a railroad had been made in 1853, but the road was never built. When the Cairo, Vincennes and Chicago Railroad was built, it was north of the first village. Another village was platted by J. W. Russell, at the request of Larkin Stallings and E. H. Davis. They called the new village Texas Station, and it was laid out so the east and west streets ran north seventy degrees east, and the north and south streets ran at right angles to the above. The first merchants were D. H. Harris and John Graham. The station was named Texas City by the railroad company. A brick and tile factory was started there, in 1884, by Gram and Camp. Most of the products were used locally—brick for construction of buildings, and tile for draining the farms. The first postmaster was John Graham.

Morrillsville was surveyed and platted by Benjamin D. Lewis, deputy surveyor, on November 19, 1872, at the request of the heirs of William H. Carrier. It is situated in the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 2, Township 2, Range 5. When platted,

it contained only the house of William H. Carrier. The first business of any kind was a family grocery, operated as J. E. Allen & Bro. The first general store was opened by Pankey and Russell.

Locally, this little village was called Carrier's Mill, since Carrier once had a mill there, but the postoffice was named Carrier Mills, so the latter name has been adopted. G. W. Burnett was the first postmaster, in 1872.

Rileyville was surveyed by James W. Russell, at the request of Mrs. L. M. Riley. It is in the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 5, Township 8, Range 5, about four miles northwest of Galatia, on the Illinois Central Railroad. Two streets—Oak and Main—run east and west. The first store opened on the town site was started by W. F. Gill, in 1877 or 1878. The first postmaster was L. M. Riley, who died, and who was succeeded by his widow. She retained the office until 1883.

Hamburg was surveyed and platted by James W. Russell, at the request of Wesley Coffee and William Durham, on April 26, 1877. It is in the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 29, Township 7, Range 6, about four miles north of Raleigh, in what is now Long Branch Township.

West End was surveyed by James W. Russell, at the request of Charles Jones. The village is in Section 30, Township 7, Range 5, and borders on Franklin County. It lies less than one mile south of the old settlement of Halltown, about six miles northwest of Galatia.

Halltown, an early settlement in the county, was located in Section 19, Township 7, Range 5, in the extreme northwest corner of the county, near the present Hamilton and Franklin County line. It was on the "Old Kaskaskia Trail."

Grayson, an early community south of Eldorado, was originally a colored settlement. It was started by Neal Elliott, a free negro, who came to Illinois with other free men, and worked at the salt wells. He had previously "worked out" his freedom from his master, Joe Elliott, in Kentucky. Neal saved his money, went back to Kentucky, bought the freedom of a girl whom he married, and returned with her to Illinois. He again worked at the salt wells and in a stove factory, and saved enough money to buy the freedom of his mother. Later, he bought a farm southeast of Eldorado, and ran an inn before, and during, the Civil War. There he reared his children—Peter, John, Charles, Minerva, Sarah, Eary, Mary, Samuel, and George. The oldest was born in 1829, and the youngest in 1853. The daughter of Samuel, Nellie Blackwell, is living at this time in Carrier Mills. Lee Elmer (Gus) Elliott, the son of George, is also living in Carrier Mills at the present time. Several more descendants are living throughout the state. Henry Baker, his wife Laura, and Howard Towles, were other settlers in Grayson at the same time with Neal Elliott.

Red Bud was a flag stop on the Shawneetown division of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, just southeast of Eldorado. It was in Section 35, Township 8, Range 7, and was a short distance west of the Old Goshen Road, directly south of the Elliott land.

Crawford was a subdivision of recent years, laid out by John H. Crawford near his proposed mine, four miles west of the little community of Harco. The mine was never completed, and the proposed village never passed the stage of preliminary planning. The lots are assessed yet for taxes as Crawford town lots.

IV.

A Century of Agriculture in Saline County

By John and Lucyella Foster

A THOUGHT of how all this came about probably never occurs to a visitor as he speeds along over the excellent highways winding through our beautiful and abundantly productive farmlands of Saline County. Although the deep, rich soil was here waiting, these green fields of growing corn and golden acres of ripening grain have not been with us always. Were it possible to enter a time machine, as the characters do in the comic strips, and to be projected backward through time for one hundred years, a vastly different picture would meet the eye. Although Saline County is one hundred years old this year, some of our farms and farm homes are much older.

When Saline became a county, Illinois had been a state for twenty-nine years; however, the story of our farms and our farmers had been in the making for a few years before that date. There were a few squatters in Saline County prior to the entry of the first land at the United States Land Office at Shawneetown, but since they had no legal title to the land, they did not improve their farms for fear they would not be able to buy them in the distant future.

The first people who settled in Saline County probably did not think of themselves as squatters, although after the public lands were offered for sale, the term was applied to the people who could not or would not obtain legal title to the property upon which they lived. Neither did they call themselves farmers. Since everyone in the community tilled the soil to scratch out enough food in the summer to tide his family and his animals over the lean winter months, it was a way of life instead of the occupation that farming is today.

If one looks closely enough and digs deeply enough into the manners and customs of Saline County people,

one will find that many survivals of the early days still exist in our present way of doing things. Saline County, as well as Southern Illinois, was first settled by migration of families from the southern states of Virginia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Kentucky, who came overland into the rugged foothills of the Ozarks and cleared the rounded, worn-off hills and the rolling, stone-studded fields. With them, these early settlers brought a love of hunting and fishing not found in the later migration of German and Hungarian agriculturists down the Ohio, who settled the level black land near the rivers. The people from the South had no knowledge or desire for extensive farming but depended mainly upon hunting and fishing to supply the table and household needs. The love of dogs and guns, of fox chases, and 'possum hunts, of steel traps and fishing trips is still an inborn legacy found in the descendants of the early pioneer stock. A drive of less than one hundred miles northward will find communities who care little for such sport. The love of the forest and stream and the love of full barns and rippling grain fields do not go hand in hand; therefore, Southern Illinois farms, as a whole, do not rank with the better farms of central and northern Illinois.

As the county filled up and the cultures of the migrations fused, the character of the farming methods improved until today our farmers are using more scientific knowledge in soil testing and seed treatment than many other sections of the country. With all these improvements, one still finds the chain harness, the small diamond plow, and the hay stack built around a pole that rarely ever are seen in other sections of Illinois. They are visible evidences of an earlier age than ours.

Land offices for the disposition of public lands were created at Vincennes and at Kaskaskia as early as 1804. The Shawneetown Land Office was not created until

1812. In that year, Madison, the fourth president of the United States, was busy fighting the second war with Great Britain which was fought over the question of the searching of American ships and the impressment of American seamen by the English Navy. It was also the year that Napoleon Bonaparte took his final step on his "Road to Ruin" and attacked Russia.

Although the Shawneetown Land Office was opened in 1812, the first land entry in what is now Saline County was not made for nearly two months after the first entry in the present Gallatin County. Two entries were made September 3, 1812—one by John Wren for the southeast quarter of Section 8, Township 10, and Range 7 east. This location is the west end of the mountain in what is now Somerset community, known later as Prospect Hill. The other entry on that day was by Hankerson Rude, on the northwest quarter of Section 19, Township 10, Range 7 east. A complete list of the early land entries in Saline County is found in Goodspeed's *History of Gallatin, Saline, Hamilton, Franklin, and Williamson Counties, Illinois*.

In 1818, in what is now Saline County, outside the reservation, (the Salt Works), there probably were not more than ninety families, a considerable proportion of whom, to judge from the land entries, lived along the road to Kaskaskia.

To show Saline County in the relationship to the older parts of the State, you will see that the year 1818 was a notable one in the history of Illinois because in that year Illinois became of age. It actually had been settled by whites for one hundred and eighteen years. For a century after the planting of the first permanent settlement, the growth of institutional life was very slow. The people, for the most part, lacked ambition, were thriftless, and lived without purpose. Although Kas-

kaskia was over a hundred years old and had been for many years the metropolis of the upper Mississippi Valley, it impressed a visitor in 1819 as "not very important." The territory of Illinois, in population and in agricultural interest, improved and flourished greatly in territorial times between the War of 1812 and 1818. The people who came in at this period were a moral, correct people, who settled in this country on mature reflection, to better their own condition and to provide a good country for their children. They immigrated from the older states, not in masses, but by families, and they adapted their lives to the laws, habits, and customs of the previous inhabitants of the country.

The farming methods for the first twenty or thirty years after the first land was entered in Saline County were quite crude. The bar-share plow with the wooden moldboard, which merely tickled the earth to a depth of about two inches, was the only plow for quite a number of years. This type of plow was common in the South and because many of the pioneers came from that region, it was used in Southern Illinois as well. The next plow was the Carey plow which turned a furrow and was the first turning plow in this part of the country. Still better plows came in after the "Dry Year of 1854." Deep plowing, that is, to a depth of eight to ten inches, then began. In Saline County, as in all other parts of the country, the introduction of the deep-running iron-pointed plow met with deep-seated prejudices. "That'll never do"; "You kain't raise krops that-a-way, you're only pizenin' the land." But deep plowing in time removed the prejudices and even reclaimed a great deal of land that had been worn out by continued cropping and thin plowing and had been abandoned without entry by those who made entries in other sections.

When Saline was hewn from pioneer Gallatin County

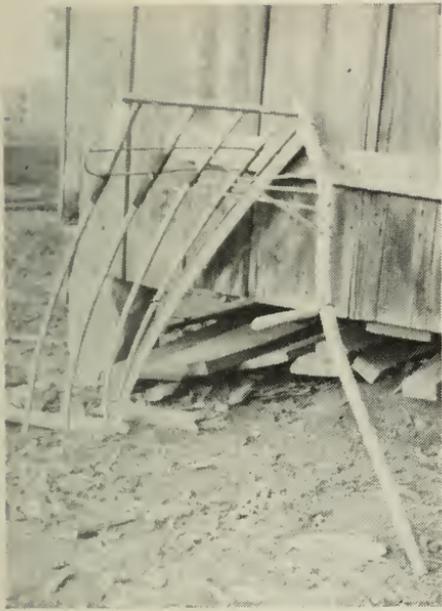


PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER.

Old Cradle Used in Cutting
Grain in Early Saline County.

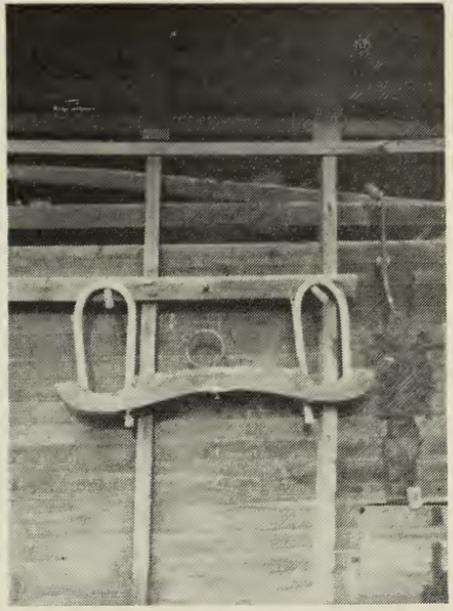


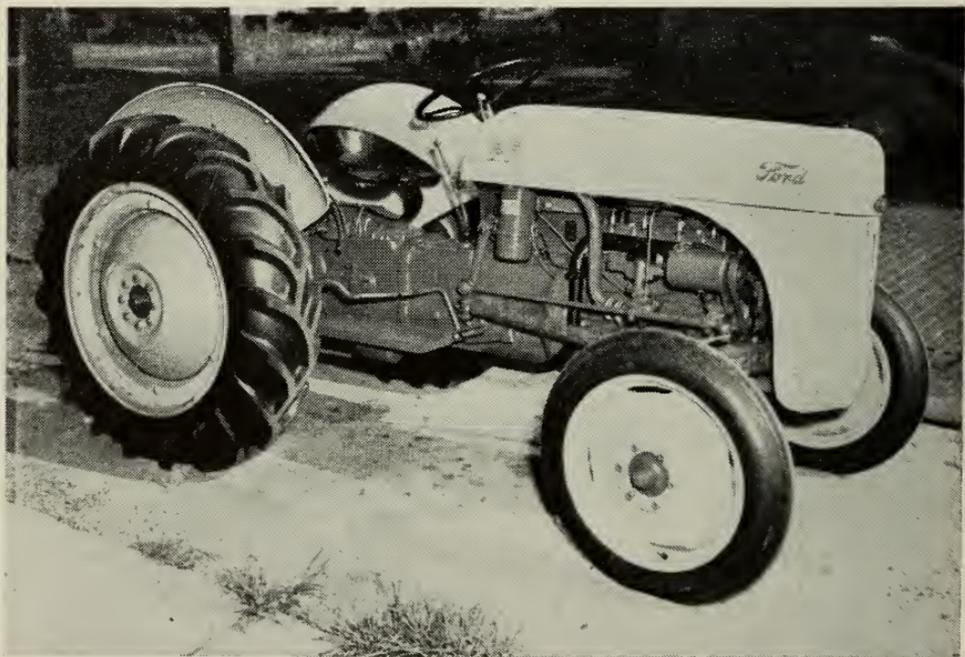
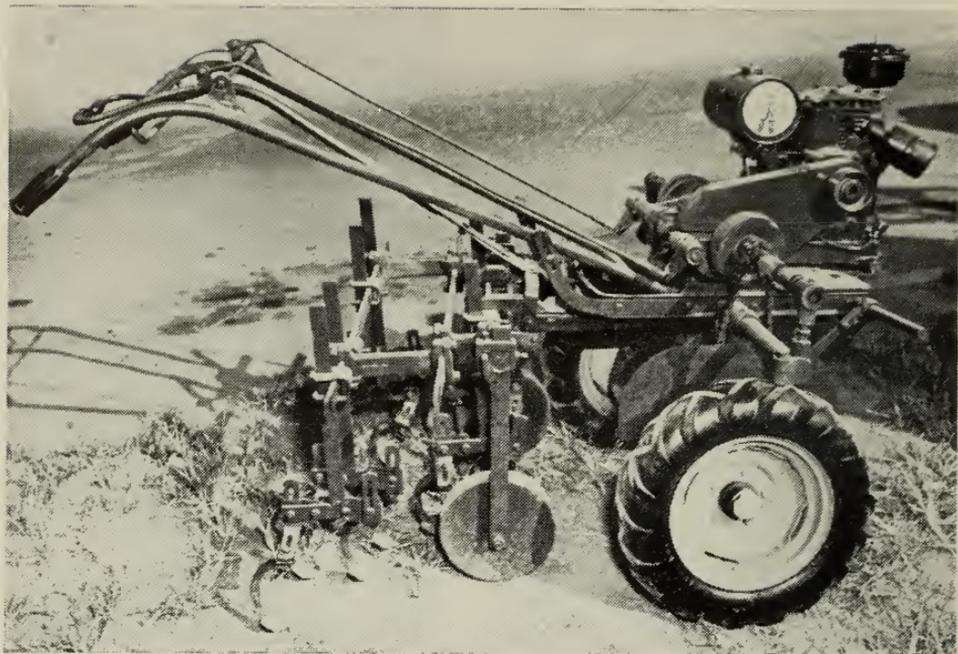
PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER.

Early Oxen Yoke.



PHOTOS COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Threshing wheat with modern machinery.



PHOTOS COURTESY BARHAM-GREEN.
Modern Farming Equipment.

in 1847, James K. Polk, the eleventh president of the United States, was worrying about the Oregon Territory and preparing to provoke war with Mexico. It was the year before gold was to be discovered in California; Queen Victoria was the monarch of Great Britain; Louis Philippe was nearing the end of his nerve-wracking reign as the king of France; and crafty old Prince Metternich still held the whip over Germany. The older states on the eastern coast had cast off their status of colonials in the period known as the "mad," "roaring," and "fabulous" forties, and had emerged into a period of intensive cultural growth. The growth occurred in a time of reforms and crazes when the refined people of the East tried in vain to graft a European landscape onto the traditionless beauty of America. There was a wide gap between the culture of the East and the Saline County wilderness. The contrast is greater when one thinks of the family life of the southern plantation owners in their gay and easy rounds of entertainment and pleasure combined with world travel and palatial dwellings. Compare that picture with our pioneer log hut, surrounded by a rail fence carved out of the lovely backwoods country by the early settler, his wife, and their children. The women worked hard in the fields with the men, besides cooking for the family, carding, spinning, weaving, and making the clothing that they wore—though buckskin breeches were not extremely rare.

One of the best authorities on the early history of Saline County is the Reverend W. S. Blackman, author of *The Boy of Battle Ford*. Born in 1840 in a log dwelling on a little farm, seven miles south of Harrisburg, Illinois, and one mile south of the then thriving village of Independence, he moved at the age of two, to a farm on the Saline River, four miles west. At that time there were few people in Southern Illinois, especially in that

part of Saline County. He says, "If there were as many people as there are sections of land, I do not know where they lived."

In the years before 1855, about ninety-nine acres out of each one hundred acres of land belonged to the government. The people were too poor to buy the land and settled on the United States land and cleared the little patches they called farms.

With the exceptions of these little farms, the land was covered with timber of the finest quality of hardwood—hickory, walnut, elm, maple, oak—as well as less valuable varieties. The timber, which then was a real nuisance to the settlers, would be worth many times as much as are the farms made by its cutting, were it here today. However, the farmers were compelled to have land on which they could plant gardens and produce grain. A clearing of five acres was sufficient to support an average family. These farms were enclosed by fences, four or five feet high, made of rails ten feet long. The bushes and saplings were grubbed out but the large trees were deadened by chopping out an encircling ring of bark. The trees along the fences were felled away from the fields so that the branches would not have to be cleared away.

On these few acres were grown corn, potatoes, pumpkins, beans, peas, cabbage, and cucumbers. Most families raised a patch of cotton to supply clothing for the family. That and the few sheep of the county were the sources of the clothing supply.

Most of the farmers kept a few farm animals which were largely self-sustaining. The sheep of that day would suffer in comparison with the sheep found on the farms now. They were light-bodied, with long, small legs, and their tails nearly reached the ground. They had little heads and usually small horns with short wool

on their backs and sides; the under parts of the bodies were nude with the exception of the hair which protected the legs. What wool the sheep yielded contained so many burrs from the field, or beggar lice from the woods, that much labor and patience was required to manufacture it into cloth. In spite of all these difficulties, the mothers and grandmothers made very warm clothing out of it.

Each farmer had one or two cows and a few hogs. The hogs were fed just enough to keep them from going wild. The swine of that day were very different from those of the present day. Then they all had long snouts, long slim legs, and bowed backs. In color, they were red or black or blue. About fifty per cent of them were decorated with a strip of white, six inches wide around the body. In those days, the swine were supposed to be old enough to be used as food when they were two years old. However, it was common to permit them to grow and mature to the age of three and even four years old. According to Blackman, the meat of those hogs was more palatable than that of the Berkshires of today. The hogs fed on acorns and nuts; therefore the pork was not so fat. Pork and bacon were so cheap then that it did not pay to raise it for sale. As Blackman recalls, "Bacon of the choice parts of the hog was worth less than three dollars per hundred pounds at Shawneetown or Elizabethtown, the nearest and principal markets, thirty miles away."

Although wheat was grown in the French settlements of the American Bottom around Kaskaskia as early as 1782, no wheat or oats were grown in Saline County until after 1850. W. S. Blackman said he was eleven years old before he saw either of these growing. Wheat flour was, in the early days, a great luxury; so much so that there was no thought of grades. In 1846, while recovering from a spell of fever, Blackman saw his first biscuit. It

was given to him by old Aunt Ann Cole, a colored woman, who lived three miles west of Battle Ford in a colored settlement below the present Carrier Mills. He says, "I enjoyed it very well. It was flat, hard, and heavy, but it was sweet and delicious to me." Cole was well known as a good farmer and that year he had raised his first patch of wheat. It had been taken from the field and flailed out and fanned with a cloth till separated from the chaff. Then it was ground at a water mill and bolted with a hand bolt.

Before wheat became a staple crop, it was customary to live principally on cornbread, corn meal, Johnny cake, and milk through the week, and on Sunday enjoy the luxury of wheat flour biscuits and coffee.

As soon as the means of threshing and grinding were introduced, wheat was grown in larger quantities. The first threshing machine, which both cleaned and threshed the wheat, was brought into the county in 1855 by Bill Keaster, who was later killed in the Battle of Fort Donelson. It was a great improvement over the flail; yet the wheat had to be cleaned by hand or a common fan. It was this year, too, that the first horse drawn wagon was brought into the county. There is a difference of opinion about the last statement. Blackman says, "During the first seven years of my life, (to 1847), I saw only one wagon except the clumsy truck wagon whose wheels were sawed from black gum logs. Sleds were used generally in moving that which could not be carried easily on the men's shoulders. The roads of that date were not capable of admitting the passage of a wagon in most places. As to bridges, there were none in this county."

In 1854, long remembered as "the dry year", not one farm in thirty grew any wheat at all. In that year, only the crops which matured early produced. Cole,

the colored man, had a large wheat crop that season. He let the people have all his surplus for seed. People were astonished at his generosity.

In speaking of that year, Blackman says, "If we gathered five bushels of corn off our farm, I do not know where it grew." The men were forced to haul corn from Shawneetown where corn grew in the river bottoms without rain. Some of the farmers kept their cattle alive by cutting maple trees and permitting the cows to eat the buds and twigs.

The next year, 1855, was as good a farming year as 1854 had been bad. Everything was early and abundant. It was after that year that wheat was raised to sell and biscuits became a daily occurrence.

The next year, 1856, was only an ordinary year for farmers, but as they had learned to raise wheat, a mighty impulse was given to farming. The next season, that of 1857, was almost as good for the farmers as 1855. The year 1858 was not a very good crop year, but better than 1859.

One of the instances of the ingenuity of the farmers of the early day was that elm bark and hickory bark were used for lines to guide the horses until home made rope lines made of cotton were obtainable. Very little money was spent, and most of this for salt, soda, matches, and other articles that could not be produced on the farm. Usually the family had a barrel of sorghum that served as sugar as well as for syrup. The conditions of the soil and climate required for sorghum production are identical with those of corn, and sorghum is still produced to some extent all over the southern part of the state.

Tobacco was not the only crop brought from the South with the early settlers. They were accustomed to the raising of cotton, and not only were the climate and soil permissive for cotton growing but the necessity for home

made clothing made it almost mandatory to produce cotton out of which to get that clothing. The cotton growing areas of the county were in the southwest corner, and along the west side. No figures are available to show the extent of the cotton acreage but it was substantial. This is shown clearly by the fact that there was a cotton gin at Raleigh and one at Harrisburg.

The history of cotton production in Saline County follows a similar pattern to that of tobacco. It was present from early settlement; it increased during and following the Civil War; it reached its greatest heights in the latter part of the nineteenth century; and it lessened and disappeared after 1900.

To show the price of food in 1859, the first year the *Harrisburg Chronicle* was published, one may inspect an advertisement taken from the issue published November 21, 1859.

“Bacon

Hams	\$.12	Chickens	\$1.50 per dozen
Shoulder	.10	Eggs	.08 per dozen
Sides	.11	Salt	3.25 per barrel
Beef		Tallow	.10
Fresh	.06	Wheat	.60 - .75
Dry	.12	Potatoes	.40 per bushel

Tobacco was a common crop in Saline County from the beginning of its farming history. Jasper W. Turner, in his book, *Half a Century in the School Room*, says, “The crop we raised on the Garner farm during the season of 1864 was an unusually abundant one. We finished stripping our tobacco crop early in November, on the day Lincoln was elected president for the second term. The yield was four thousand pounds from four acres.”

In the year 1887, when the Goodspeed Publishing Company brought out the *History of Gallatin, Saline, Ham-*

ilton, Franklin, and Williamson Counties, Illinois, Raleigh had two tobacco stemmeries, owned respectively by Lusk, and Webber and Son; and also a large tobacco factory owned by A. S. Clark. The stemmer of H. Webber and Son in Gallatia (Galatia) was, in 1887, a very large brick building, five stories high and 150 x 200 feet in size. From thirty to fifty stemmers were employed, and about 1,500,000 pounds of tobacco were prepared for market annually.

The growing of tobacco was almost a never ending, year-round job. The tobacco farmer had little spare time from the planting of the seed bed in the early spring to marketing the crop the following winter. A large brush pile was burned in the spring to dry the soil and kill the weed seeds. After the wood ashes and soil had been thoroughly mixed, the seeds were planted. The hard, back breaking job of transplanting the plants from the seedling bed to the thrown up ridges of the tobacco field came when they were large enough to be moved. Then came the continuous round of hoeing, thinning, suckering, worming, and topping until the crop was stripped and processed at home for use or sold to the tobacco barns.

Although many small patches of tobacco were grown all over the county, the greatest producing areas were the north and northwest townships of the county. However, much tobacco was brought in from Hamilton County. When the industry began to expand, many farmers mortgaged their future crop to the tobacco companies for money to live on during the growing season. The centers of the industry were Galatia and Raleigh where the tobacco barns and stemmeries were located. It usually was near Christmas time when the tobacco farmers brought their wagon loads of tobacco into town. After the loads had been weighed and the crop mortgages

settled, it was always hoped that there would be a little money left to buy a few things for the one big holiday of the year.

Seven or eight acres was considered a large field of tobacco. When the plant grew tall enough, it was topped. This stopped the growth of the stem and produced larger and broader leaves. After the plant was topped, a sucker would grow from behind each leaf. These suckers had to be removed to prevent too much nourishment going to them. The enemies of the tobacco crop were frost and hail.

Ed Bishop, who now lives in Raleigh, is seventy-nine years old. As a boy, about 1880, he worked in "Uncle Nell" Webber's tobacco stemmery for twenty-five cents per day. "I picked up the leaves which the stemmers dropped on the floor. Webber employed thirty or more stemmers who worked at long tables as long as from here to that house across the street. He employed both white and negro men and a few negro women. Their job was to remove two-thirds of the stem from the leaves. A working day began early and lasted till late at night. Later, during the heyday of the tobacco industry in 1888 and 1889, I worked at the stemming tables for fifty cents per hundred pounds of tobacco stemmed. The average day's work was under two hundred pounds. The most I ever stemmed in one day was six hundred pounds. A little negro and I had a race that day, but he beat me by one hundred pounds. If you think that's not fast work, just remember that it was stemming faster than you can count the stems.

"The biggest tobacco stemming race I ever heard of was between a negro and a man whose name was Jess Wright. They were working for Andy Clark. Both of them stemmed over a thousand pounds of tobacco in a day but the negro beat him by about sixty pounds. I

remember seeing Jess Wright when I was a boy but I didn't see the race. It was something the people around here talked about for a long time.

"I guess you have never heard about the big strike at the tobacco barns, have you? Well, it was in 1890, and was caused by the negro stemmers. They had agreed to work for forty cents per hundred pounds in order to get more of their race employed. When the white men heard of the deal, they struck and forced the tobacco companies to fire the negroes. Feeling against the price cutters ran so high that the negroes left Raleigh and there have been none living here since."

The farmers brought the tobacco to the barns by the wagon load. In rush season when many farmers were selling their crop, there would be long lines of wagons and teams waiting their turn to unload. The men who unloaded sometimes worked from early morning until midnight. Bishop remembers when twenty-five or more wagons would have to wait all night and be unloaded next morning. The tobacco leaves were bound by the growers, before marketing, in small bundles called hands. These hands were tied at the base and hung on a stick with the tips of the leaves pointing downward. When the tobacco company bought the load, the sticks loaded with the hands were hung in the barns in tiers. Here they were left to dry until ready to be stemmed.

When the tobacco went through a change known as "being in case" or "going through a sweat," it was taken from the tiers to the stemming tables. The tobacco was certain to be "in case" on mornings in May but a wet spell earlier in the year would bring about the same condition.

After the stems had been removed, the leaves were packed into large wooden hogsheads and pressed down

by means of hand presses working on the jack screw principle. The hogsheads with their five-foot staves were made in a local cooper's shop.

Before the tobacco buyers, who usually came from Kentucky, would buy the tobacco from the tobacco companies, they inspected the hogsheads. After unscrewing the head from the container, they sampled the top, center, and bottom leaves by probing with a long, thin iron bar. The main tobacco buyer in Saline County was Frank Elder. The three Ramsey brothers from Hopkinsville, Kentucky, bought over one million pounds of tobacco in both 1888 and 1889. The normal price was three dollars to six dollars per hundred pounds but during the Civil War the price soared as high as twenty dollars per hundred pounds.

Most of the tobacco in the early days was hauled to Shawneetown and sent down the river. Later, when the railroads were built, the hogsheads were hauled to Eldorado and loaded on a train. The hauling charge from Raleigh to Eldorado was one dollar per hogshead.

John Coker, who lives in Harrisburg, and who is now eighty-eight years old, likes to relate his experiences at the time he was working in Robert Mick's store. He remembers when Mick bought fifteen or twenty hogsheads and shipped them to Birmingham, England.

After the bumper tobacco crop of 1888 and 1889, the price fell so low that it was not profitable to grow on a large scale. In 1900, an attempt was made to bring the production up to its old mark, but the effort failed and since that date no tobacco has been grown commercially in Saline County on a large scale.

The wealth of Southern Illinois is not in her mines because those some day will be gone, but in her soils from which her very existence must come. The soils of Saline County are divided into four groups:

Upland timber soil, including all upland areas of glacial or loessial origin, that are now or were formerly covered with timber: 52.17%.

Terrace soils, including bench lands, or second bottom lands, formed by deposits from overloaded streams: 5.90%.

Swamp and bottom land soils, including the overflow land along the streams, the swamps, and poorly drained lowlands: 35.46%.

Residual soils, including rock outcrops and soils formed in place through the weathering of rocks: 6.47%.

One of the misnomers which we have allowed to grow in our talk in Southern Illinois is "hard-pan." We do not have such a formation. We do have tight clay but we do ourselves an injustice by allowing this clay to be maligned, for it contains in it an element which gives to our peaches and apples a flavor and color unsurpassed.

The early settlers paid little, from our point of view, for their farms. When W. S. Blackman's mother sold her farm at Battle Ford, the price was one hundred dollars, to be paid in property, one half down and twenty-five dollars worth each autumn for the next two years. No interest was to accrue. Around 1855, when the county began to be more thickly settled, anyone who could raise fifty dollars went to Shawneetown and bought a forty-acre tract of land of his own selection. If he chose to buy the tract on which some one had a shanty or had made improvements, he was regarded as a very mean man by everyone. Joe Robinson, one of the very first inhabitants of Harrisburg, caused a lot of trouble and anger, and ran the risk of being killed for doing that very thing.

During the dry year of 1854, the land in Illinois, which had not been sold already, was divided into what was

termed, swamp land and ridge land. The swamp land was given to the counties for school purposes. Commissioners were appointed to appraise every tract of forty acres, ditch it, and sell it as fast as bidders could be found for it. It was valued at twenty-five, fifty, seventy-five cents, and one dollar per acre. The ridge land was put on the market at twelve and one-half cents per acre. Any person of legal age could get a deed to any vacant forty acres of land for five dollars, but no one legally could enter more than a half section which would cost him forty dollars. The farmers went to Shawneetown and stood in line to be listed, then returned home to await their turn, for all the land could not be entered in a few days.

In 1860, Blackman recalls that he bought a forty-acre farm for ninety dollars on one year's credit, except five per cent which was to be paid in cash.

To span the years between the Civil War and the first World War in one short paragraph would seem that we are closing our eyes to the industrial, agricultural, and social progress which soared to such great heights in that period of our county's development; however, the seeds of progress sowed in those years are still bearing fruit, and although our modern methods of farming and animal husbandry point ever forward, they nevertheless show plainly the marks left by the toil-worn hands of our fathers and grandfathers who sowed and reaped such great harvests in that richly productive era between the two great wars. It was a period of large harvests, large families, and large farm-homes. The cabin-on-the-hill-farm gave way to the large home with many barns marching across the lowlands as the swamps retreated again and again to become the black land of our fertile farms.

Corn is found on nearly every farm in Saline County.

The county has a high yield. Some farms have yields as high as seventy bushels per acre. The introduction of hybrid corn has increased the yield and has created jobs for many people in its production. Corn is fed to the livestock, fed to chickens, ground for meal, made into hominy, and part of it is shipped to market. In the early days, the farmers produced more than they bought. At present, each farmer buys much more of the products he consumes. This practice has led to cash crops of many kinds and corn is one of them. Whether or not corn is marketed depends upon the price of corn and also the price of hogs and cattle. Sometimes it pays the farmers to feed the corn and market the livestock. Distance to market also helps to determine whether the corn is fed or marketed.

In 1945, Saline County had 1,465,200 bushels of corn grown on 39,600 acres.

Wheat is a crop that requires level land for profitable production. This fact is noticeable when one studies a wheat acreage map of Southern Illinois. Another factor that tends to cut down the wheat acreage is weather. If it rains too much in the spring when the wheat is beginning to develop, the yields are low. The absence of snow during some winters causes the wheat "to heave;" this greatly lessens the yield. These conditions prevent Saline County from competing with the western states in wheat production. However, in 1945, Saline County produced 258,900 bushels on 19,300 acres which amounts to an average yield of thirteen bushels per acre at average price of \$1.57 per bushel.

Oats, which thrive best in a cool moist climate during their early growing period and a hot dry period at harvest time, are grown but little in Southern Illinois. However, Saline County leads the eleven counties in the southern end of the state in producing oats. In 1945,

the production was 26,600 bushels on 1,900 acres with an average yield of fourteen bushels per acre, and the average price was seventy-three cents per bushel. Oats furnish a cheap food for horses, cattle, hogs, and chickens.

Soy beans are one of the largest cash crops of Saline County farmers. In the relatively short time since they were introduced, they have been climbing in acreage and in yield. In 1945, there were produced 295,300 bushels of soybeans on 17,400 acres, with an average yield of seventeen bushels and an average price of \$2.07 per bushel.

Pasture land is found in abundance on the 2,211 farms (in 1945) of Saline County, but the acreage could be increased at the expense of the crop land. This increase could be in those areas where the slope is more than fifteen per cent. Seventy-five per cent of the land of the southern eleven counties has a slope of over fifteen per cent and should be in pasture or forest. Saline County has about 52,000 acres of pasture land.

The northern half of Illinois has been interested in the breeding of pure bred horses since the importation of French horses began in 1860. By 1870, Illinois had taken the lead in the breeding of draft horses and held that lead for two decades. Seven counties, including Saline and the counties immediately surrounding it, contained almost all the working oxen in the state in 1890; and these same counties were, with a few exceptions, the poorest in farm machinery. For many years the threshing separators were pulled from place to place by oxen although the steam engine supplied the power after the separator was set. After the Southern Illinois farmer stopped using oxen, he became interested chiefly in mules and asses. These animals were shifted more and more to the southern counties during this period

because of their ability to thrive in a hot climate and to stand the pesteriferous flies which breed in great swarms in the swampy, low-lying districts of Egypt. As one travels through the county today, he will see that the modern pneumatic-tired tractor equipped with the latest mechanical devices to lighten the farmers' labor and speed their work is gradually supplanting the horse and the mule. Within a few years, the horse may be used mostly for pleasure.

Most sources of information report that Robert Weaver owned the last yoke of work oxen in the county.

Not all the swine in Southern Illinois are marketed because many of the farmers still kill their winter's supply of meat. Hog killing time is a gala affair in Saline County with the neighbors helping and even the children playing "hooky" from school to be in the way and enjoy the fun. The breeds of hogs to be found here are the Poland China, Duroc Jersey, Chester White, and Hampshire. The Poland China and the Duroc Jersey are the most numerous.

The grape growing community lying north of Muddy comprises the largest group of vineyards in Saline County. Because most of the grape growers are of Italian descent, the community sometimes is known as Little Italy.

The vineyards do not have a long history. The first one was planted in 1916. The people who are the main grape producers of this little community—the Bertinos, the Molinarolos, the Olibonis and the Businaros—came here around 1900 to work in the new coal mines being sunk in Saline County. Coming from the northern part of Italy, these families have grape growing and wine making in their blood. The grandfather of Pete Bertino was the official wine maker in his native district. His

duties were to supervise the grape pressing and the wine making of the district in which he lived.

The grapes grown here are known as a soft variety and are different from the hard grapes grown in Italy and in California. Because of the severe winters, it is not profitable to grow hard grapes here. It could be done, however, by burying the vines each winter. Hard grapes differ from the soft variety in the toughness of the skin and the pulp. Because of this quality, they are more difficult to press but they have a higher sugar and alcoholic content than the soft grapes.

The methods of growing grapes here, following that in the provinces of Italy from which these families came, is to train the vines to run along a wire stretched across the vineyard. In California, according to Mr. Bertino, the vines are pruned to grow in an upright position with the runners spreading out in the shape of a tree.

Most of the grapes grown here are of the Concord variety and produce a red Concord dry wine.

There is close cooperation between the School of Agriculture of the University of Illinois and these vineyard keepers. Grape culture requires efficient soil conservation and a thorough knowledge of fertilization. A few years ago the farmers assisted the university in an experiment which tested six different varieties of cuttings in Saline County soil.

The largest yield grown here was a record of fourteen tons on a four-acre vineyard. Last year, 1946, was a very poor year because of damage caused by the rot; however, a good yield is expected this season.

Plans for the future call for an increased acreage of grapes and greater production of wines.

Now that we have returned from our trip through time, and have seen our county grow from its humble beginning in a wilderness to take its place in the mod-

ern scheme of life, the farmers of Saline County extend to you an invitation and urge you to do a little exploration on your own. Drive around over the county and get acquainted with our farms and farmers. Those who till the soil, in general, and Saline County farmers, in particular, have always been noted for their hospitality and friendliness. Stop in at any farm home, lean over the barn lot gate, and listen while your host points with pride to his accumulated display of agricultural wealth. A little inquiry might reveal that you are talking to a descendant of those hardy pioneers who broke the sod and planted for us the Saline County we have today.

V.

Early Courts and Government

By Clara Louise Pittman

IT is obvious that the most important thing first needed after the separation of Saline from Gallatin County was a system of county government and courts to administer it. The Act of the General Assembly approved February 25, 1847, carried in it a provision for submission of the proposition to the voters and set the date for the election for the first Monday in August. The vote was favorable to the separation but the final completion of the separation did not come until December 10, 1847.

A court was set up in the new county, however, before the December 10 date. This was the County Commissioners Court. The Act provided that the Circuit Court for the County of Saline should convene and be held on the Mondays following the terms of court in Hamilton County. Judge William A. Denning was to preside in Saline County, and did preside at the first term.

It will be remembered that the State then was operating under the Constitution of 1818, and the system of courts to be set up were done so under its provisions.

On October 11, 1847, the County Commissioners Court met in the settlement which had theretofore been known as Curran and deliberated upon the choice of a site for the seat of county government, and upon the choice of a name for it if a new village was to be started. The Court met in a special session and but two of the commissioners were present—David Upchurch and James Stricklin. Different sites and names were discussed but the Court chose the site of Raleigh and selected that name.

The Court appointed Archibald Sloan surveyor of Raleigh and he was authorized to employ assistance in laying out the new town. The survey was

made on October 28, 1847, and of some importance in those days, it was at once decided that Lot Number Twenty should be set aside for the location of a jail.

The next term of the County Commissioners Court was held on November Sixth next. The same commissioners were present. James M. Gaston was selected clerk of the court and he presented his bond as such official which was approved. Hiram Burnett was selected as county treasurer and he also presented his bond which likewise was approved. Archibald Sloan had employed William St. C. Clark, Martin Kittinger, and Israel Crawford to assist in laying out Raleigh, and the Court ordered their fees to be paid as well as to order that Hannah Crawford be paid the sum of \$2.12½ for boarding the surveyors while they were platting the new town.

A committee of three, consisting of William Carr, George Bond, and William Stricklin, was appointed by the Court to mark out and locate a road from Raleigh to the notched trees on the line dividing the counties of Saline and Williamson.

The Court met next on December 6, and by that time some of the town lots had been sold. Partial payments had been made and notes taken for the unpaid balances. The Court ordered that the deferred payment notes be turned over to the county treasurer for collection. On the following day, December 7, the Court ordered that a courthouse be built according to plans made out for the same, and appointed Hiram Burnett and Archibald Sloan to let the contract for its construction.

The Court also, on that day, divided the new county into voting precincts and appointed election judges. The precincts created were Curran, Raleigh, Saline, Stonefort, and Summerset, (now Somerset). This apportion-

ment was not substantially altered until the change to the township form of county government.

The Court met next on January 28, 1848. Its first business was to command the sheriff by a writ of ad quod damnum to summon a jury to locate a mill site and assess the damage by consequence of the construction of a proposed mill and dam projected by Stephen F. Mitchell on the Saline River near the present site of Mitchellsville. Mitchell had platted and started the little village immediately after the establishment of Raleigh in the hope that Mitchellsville would ultimately be chosen as the county seat.

At this term of the court, John Howard, sheriff of the new county, gave bond in the amount of \$3,500.00 and it was approved. The Court also fixed the county tax rate at twenty-five cents on each hundred dollars of assessed valuation.

The Court met again on March 8 and was occupied mainly with the appointment of supervisors of the various roads. On the following day, the Court appointed a supervisor of the poor for each precinct.

The contract for the erection of the courthouse had been let to James Gaston and a time limit set for completion, May 15, 1848. On March 8, Gaston came before the Court and asked for an extension of time until August 15 and stated the extra time was needed to season and cure the green lumber that from necessity was being used.

At the December Term, the Court provided for the construction of a jail. It had a stone foundation two feet thick two feet below the surface of the ground and one foot above. It was sixteen feet square and the walls were ten inches thick. By this time, the courthouse had been completed and paid for. The Court

at the time consisted of Commissioners David Upchurch, James Stricklin, and J. R. Norman.

The formation of the Saline County government was interwoven in the events of the change in the state government brought about by the adoption of the Constitution of 1848. Although the enabling act of the legislature permitting the formation of the new county was approved on February 25, 1847, it did not become effective in an administrative manner until October and November, and the election to select delegates to the Constitutional Convention was held in April. Therefore, the voters participated as though Saline County were yet a part of Gallatin, and Saline County was represented in the convention by delegates chosen at that election. However, the new constitution was adopted by the convention on August 31, 1847, and submitted to a vote on March 6, 1848. On the latter date Saline County was functioning as a separate entity and thus voted on the matter of approval of the proposed constitution as a separate county.

Under the Constitution of 1848, the old County Commissioners Court was superseded by a County Court consisting of a county judge and two associate judges. The first county judge under the new system was Samuel Elder who was elected in 1849. The two associate justices elected at the same time were David Upchurch and James Stricklin. They served through 1850.

By the middle of 1853, it appeared that Galatia was not growing to any great degree and Mitchellsville had not proved too attractive to settlers. It thus appeared that Raleigh would actually be the permanent seat of county government. It then was decided to erect a brick courthouse. James Stelle and Horatio Coffee were em-



PHOTO COURTESY CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Saline County Courthouse 1947.



PHOTO COURTESY L. O. TRIGG

Courthouse at Raleigh, 1853.



PHOTO COURTESY MR. AND MRS. JAMES SCOTT

First Courthouse in Harrisburg.



PHOTO COURTESY MRS. LOUIS MITSDARFFER

Laying of Cornerstone present Courthouse, Harrisburg.



PHOTO COURTESY MR. AND MRS. JAMES SCOTT

Present Courthouse erected 1905, before addition 1938.

cat
 \$ 26,000
 Nine months after date, for value received, I promise to pay John M. Barnett, Drainage Commissioner of Saline county, Illinois, or to his successor in office, the sum of *Twenty Six* dollars and *fifty five* cents, as witness my hand, this *11th* day of *January* A.D. 1856
Eben C. Ingersoll

Promissory Note given by Eben C. Ingersoll for purchase swamp land in Saline County.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Law Office in Raleigh of Eben C. and Robert G. Ingersoll.

ployed to draw plans and accept sealed bids on July 18, 1853, for the construction of the brick structure.

Jarvis Pearce was the low bidder at the contract letting and was awarded the contract for the price of \$5,500. The building was thirty-six by forty feet and was two stories in height. The first floor was ten feet from the stone work to the ceiling, and the second was twelve feet from the floor to the ceiling. The foundation was of stone and the walls were brick. The first floor wall was eighteen inches thick and the second was fourteen inches in thickness.

The new courthouse was built speedily, and on March 11, 1854, the old log courthouse, the first in the new county, was sold to the Masonic fraternity and by it used for many years.

The County Court continued to meet in Raleigh until the June 1858, Term. During this period of years before the county seat was moved to Harrisburg, the County Court remained substantially the same except that on November 7, 1853, Moses McGehee was elected an associate justice in the place of James Stricklin, and in 1855, James L. Kennedy replaced David Upchurch. McGehee was advanced to the position of judge in 1856, and James Stricklin was again elected an associate justice. In 1858, William Watkins succeeded Kennedy, and when Court first convened in Harrisburg, McGehee was judge, and Watkins and Stricklin were associate justices.

The only other court of record in the county at the time was the Circuit Court. The files of the earliest cases have been lost or destroyed but yet in the office of the clerk of the court are found the clerk's record books. From the first of these books we find the relation of the first Circuit Court ever held in the county. It reads as follows: "At a Circuit Court begun and

held at Raleigh for the County of Saline and State of Illinois, on Monday, the Fifth day of June, in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Eighteen Hundred and Forty Eight present the Honorable William A. Denning, Esq., a Judge of said Court. Appeared the following named Grand Jurors, to-wit: John R. Norman, William Stricklin, John Rhine, C. B. Bramlett, Henry Garner, Albert A. Anderson, William Anderson, William Bourland, Jesse E. Rude, Samuel B. Crank, G. W. Hensley, Wilson Gaskins, Herman Thompson, David Tanner, John Miller, James Hill, and James Murray, who being empanelled and charged retired for consultation."

The first case to come before the Court was a matter in the suit of "G. A. Pemberton, Administrator of the Estate of T. H. Spencer, Deceased, vs Logan Lynch, Appeal," and the entry in the clerk's record reads as follows: "And now at this day came the parties by their attorneys, and the Defendant, by Parish, his attorney, moved the court to dismiss the appeal for want of a bond. Upon argument, whereof it is ordered by the court that said motion be overruled, and leave granted to amend the appeal bond herein."

The Parish named as an attorney in this mention was William H. Parish. In 1846, he had purchased a law library from a lawyer at Benton and had moved from Danville to take up the practice in Franklin County. When Saline County was formed, Judge Denning requested Parish to assist the clerk of the court to set up a system of records and Parish went to the new town of Raleigh to do so. While there he represented a client or two in the court, and being attracted to the town and new county, he moved to Raleigh and established a law office. Parish was the first lawyer to practice in Saline County.

The next ten years were to see many able and out-

standing members of the Bar appear in the Saline Circuit Court. Green Berry Raum, later to become a general and a member of Congress, moved to Harrisburg from Pope County; John A. Logan, with a law office in Benton, appeared in this Court. Willis Allen, and his son William Joshua Allen, of Marion, both later to become circuit judges and members of Congress appeared in cases. Ebenezer Clark Ingersoll, and his more eloquent brother Robert G., both of whom studied law under Judge Willis Allen, frequently were in court between 1855 and 1868, and the former moved to Raleigh and lived there until he moved to Peoria.

The second case in the Circuit Court was styled "Robert Watson vs Joseph Hays, Appeal," and the entry in it reads that "And now at this day comes the parties by their attorneys, and the issue and proofs being submitted to the court upon due consideration thereof it is ordered by the court that the plaintiff have and recover of the defendant his debt of \$6.00 together with his costs and charges in this behalf expended, to be taxed. And that execution issue therefor."

It is to be noted that all the papers, or written pleadings, in these cases were written out in longhand by the attorneys. It was long before the day of typewriters. The content followed the old rules of English common law, and for the most part, the paper used was a good grade of flax paper which has been able to stand a century of time and yet remain in excellent condition. Printed forms were used more frequently than now but by far the greater part of the papers were in the script of the barristers of the day.

The third case at the first term was entitled "Francis A. Ritchey vs William B. Pemberton, Appeal." A motion was made by Allen, attorney for the defendant, to dismiss the suit, and the motion was sustained and

the case dismissed. The Allen named here was Willis Allen as this was before his son, William Joshua, was admitted to practice law.

The next case on call was that of "Gilliam Harris and Samuel Neal, Administrators, vs Mary Hill et al," and was for the sale of lands in chancery. The petitioners, by Allen, their attorney, moved that W. K. Parish be appointed Guardian ad Litem for the minor defendants, and he was appointed. Parish then came into Court, accepted the appointment, and filed an answer for the minors.

The next and last case heard that day was that of "Nathan Bramlett vs Barbara Wyatt, Sarildo Pumphrey, et al." Parish moved, and it was ordered by the Court, that Allen be appointed Guardian ad Litem for minor defendants. The Court ordered Allen to file their answer by nine o'clock the following morning. It can be seen that then, as now, attorneys exchanged these appointments of Guardians ad Litem.

The next day, Tuesday, saw the first case to be that of "G. N. Pemberton vs Logan Lynch." The case was tried and the Court entered judgment for Pemberton in the sum of thirteen dollars and costs. The criminal docket was called next, and the first case was "The People of the State of Illinois vs George W. Drew," on a recognizance to keep the peace. The case was dismissed at the costs of the defendant. The case of "The People of the State of Illinois vs Robert C. Nelson" involving a charge of bastardy was next called. It was continued at the costs of the defendant.

The divorce suit of "James Henderson vs Annie Henderson" had been called on the opening day but Annie Henderson failed to appear. She was ruled to plead by the following day, and on this Tuesday of court, she was called again. No one appearing for her, default

was entered against her, and Henderson was granted a divorce. This was the first divorce in the new county of Saline.

The next case called was another divorce suit. It was the case of "Absalom Patterson vs Mary Patterson." Mary Patterson did not appear and defend the suit, and Patterson was also granted a divorce. Next came a partition suit, and the land not being divisible among the owners, the court ordered the premises to be sold and the proceeds divided. On that same day, the Court appointed Archibald Sloan the first master in chancery in Saline County. One assault case and one larceny case were heard, and the court then adjourned to November 6, 1848. However, before the Court adjourned, the grand jury made its report and returned an indictment against Phillip Feazle for "assault to inflict bodily injury." He was tried immediately and found guilty by the jury. The Court fined Feazle five dollars, and sentenced him to be imprisoned for one hour. The leniency in the matter of imprisonment was not because of the mercy of the court but because there was no jail to imprison him in, any longer.

The grand jury also returned an indictment for murder against Matthew Brown. Brown found it discreet and expedient to be absent, and to remain absent. The indictment was continued for several years and finally dismissed.

At the November Term, several appeal cases, partition proceedings, divorce cases, and criminal trials were held. In the first of the cases, Robert Stunson was fined ten dollars and costs for "selling liquor on the Sabbath." Benjamin Thaxton was fined ten dollars and costs for "selling liquor without a license." The days and times were those of the frontier. Indictments at that term show that Lofton Price was indicted for "inciting

a riot" and Jefferson King was indicted for "kidnaping." King was able to get his case continued at several different terms and it was finally dismissed with leave to reinstate. It was never reinstated.

The November 1850, Term was held with Judge Denning again presiding. Carrol Stunson was before the Court on a charge of "gaming," and also on an indictment for "murder." Both cases were continued. Sarah Miller was indicted on a charge of "bigamy," and Joseph O'Neal was indicted for "stealing public records." Both of these cases were also continued for the term.

Circuit Court and county government were thrown in much confusion and turmoil during the next two years. On February 11, 1851, there was approved an act of the legislature which abolished both Saline and Gallatin Counties, and created a single county of Gallatin having its seat of government at Equality. The judge of the Circuit Court at that time was Judge S. S. Marshall of Shawneetown. He made known his decision that he would refuse to hold any more circuit court in Saline County in view of the act of the legislature.

The County Commissioners Court of Saline County, at its March 1851, term, ordered that the county treasurer pay to Henry Garner, William Frizzel, and David Upchurch, the sum of two hundred dollars, to defray the cost of a suit testing the constitutionality of the act. Judge Samuel Elder of the Commissioners Court voiced a vigorous minority protest at the action of the Court but was outvoted by the two associate justices.

The Court met again on May 22, 1851, and ordered the clerk to notify Judge Marshall that grand and traverse juries had been summoned to appear on the fourth Monday in May, and he was instructed to invite Judge Marshall to appear and hold Circuit Court; and if Judge Marshall refused, to request that he state his

reasons in writing. The clerk made the request of Judge Marshall on May 26 while the Judge was holding Court at Equality. The Judge refused on the ground that there was no Saline County in which to hold court.

The next step in the case was that the test suit was filed. The men appointed by the County Commissioners Court retained a local Southern Illinois lawyer named Robert Wingate, and Wingate procured the assistance of a Springfield lawyer by the name of Abraham Lincoln. The two lawyers filed a suit in original mandamus in the Supreme Court of Illinois asking that court to order Judge Marshall to hold Circuit Court in Saline County. The decision of the Illinois Supreme Court was handed down by Judge Caton at the June 1851 Term of Court. It is reported in Volume 12, Illinois Supreme Court Reports, starting at page 391. Marshall was represented by A. G. Caldwell and Hugh G. Montgomery, both lawyers of more than ordinary ability. The issue was whether or not the Act of the Legislature was constitutional. The Court ruled in favor of Lincoln and Wingate and ordered Marshall to hold Court in Saline County. Judge Caton in his decision ruled that before such an act could become effective, there would have to be a vote of the residents of the counties.

Lincoln represented in two cases at the June 1851, Term. He won the Saline County case and lost the other. On July 3, 1851, he wrote his friend, Andrew McCallum, and commented on the case he had won. Lincoln wrote: "I have news from Ottawa that we win our Gallatin and Saline County case. As the Dutch justice said when he married folks, 'Now vere ish my hundred dollars?'"

Judge Marshall obeyed the mandate of the Supreme Court and held the regular May 1852, Term of the Saline County Circuit Court. In the following June, the

legislature again passed an act for the abolition of the two counties and the creation of a single county of Gallatin, but in conformity to the law laid out in the Supreme Court decision, provided for an election to be held on the first Monday in August. The election was held and the vote was against the proposition. The County Court at its September 1852, Term ordered the judges and the clerks serving at the election to be paid.

At the May 1852, Term, Wallace A. Campbell was found guilty of an assault on a woman and sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary for one year, one day of which was to be in solitary confinement, and the remainder at hard labor. At the March 1853, Term with Judge Marshall again presiding, Pleasant Eaton recovered a judgment against James B. Murray in the amount of \$750 and costs, for slander. At that same term, George Hollingsworth was convicted of manslaughter for the killing of his father, James Hollingsworth, and sentenced to the penitentiary for one year. Judge Marshall also presided at the May 1854, Term but Honorable Downing S. Baugh presided at the May 1855, Term. Judge Wesley Sloan of Golconda was elected a Circuit Judge and presided at the May 1857, Term.

At that time Hiram Burnett was circuit clerk, William Roark was sheriff, and Thomas Y. Reynolds was bailiff.

During the year 1857, the two Ingersoll brothers appeared in more cases in the Saline County Circuit Court than any other lawyer or firm of lawyers. Eben C. Ingersoll was then living at Raleigh and Robert G. Ingersoll was living at Shawneetown. They maintained a law office at Raleigh in a building which is still standing. Eben moved to Peoria in late 1857, and Robert G. followed him in early 1858.

At the June Term that year, Eben Ingersoll appeared

as Guardian ad Litem for the minor children of James M. Gaston. Gaston will be remembered as the first clerk of the County Commissioners Court and the builder of the courthouse at Raleigh. Eben also appeared for three complainants at the June Term, and Robert G. Ingersoll appeared as Guardian ad Litem for the minors involved in the case of "Israel Crawford vs Eliza Ann Smith, et al." It was at this term that Green B. Raum first appeared, and represented the complainant in the case of "Nancy Curtner vs John Curtner, et al," in a bill for dower.

Circuit Court convened again in November 1857, with Judge Wesley Sloan presiding. The first case called on November 2 was a murder case of "The People vs James P. Yandell." The case was dismissed with leave to reinstate. Yandell was a resident of Harrisburg and had donated part of the land on which Harrisburg was built. The Court heard one case for arson, another murder case, one case of assault to murder, four cases for gaming, one case for malicious mischief, and a case against a man and a woman for "living in open adultery."

During the term one woman was tried for "public indecency," and another pair of a man and a woman were tried for "adultery." This pair suggested that they be allowed to marry and that the case be dismissed but Judge Sloan rejected the offer and found them guilty.

This particular day was perhaps one of the busiest Eben C. Ingersoll ever had in a court. He represented nineteen clients out of twenty-three cases tried. Green B. Raum appeared in one case; John A. Logan appeared in two cases; and N. L. Freeman appeared in one case. All of these cases were tried this same day. Both Raum and Logan represented many clients at that term of court. The majority of litigants employed either James

Macklin, John A. Logan, Green B. Raum, or Eben C. Ingersoll.

However, Eben Ingersoll was not always restricted in his appearances to the role of attorney for others. At the June 1858, Term, he was the defendant in an appeal case prosecuted against him by Jo Robinson, and Robinson secured a judgment in the amount of \$75.92 and costs of suit. A short time later, both Eben and Robert G. Ingersoll were defendants in civil suits in the county.

Saline County had a great deal of swamp land which was sold at extremely low prices by the drainage commissioner. Eben Ingersoll bought one tract of eighty acres on January 11, 1856, from John M. Burnett, the drainage commissioner. He had nine days before bought forty acres from Burnett. In each purchase, Eben gave his note and mortgage. Robert G. Ingersoll also purchased a tract of swamp land from the drainage commissioner. Eben paid \$65.65 for the eighty-acre tract, and paid \$20 for the forty-acre tract.

Neither Eben nor Robert G. paid for the land. Green B. Raum succeeded Burnett as drainage commissioner, and on March 2, 1860, entered suits in foreclosure against both Eben Ingersoll and Robert G. Ingersoll. John Boyer was the sheriff at the time, and served the summons personally on both Ingersolls on March 22, 1860. Neither of Eben's tracts was redeemed and therefore they were sold by a special commissioner. Robert G. Ingersoll denied the averments of the suit against him and appeared by Wm. M. Christy, his attorney.

At this time there was considerable complaint spoken that the seat of county government was located at Raleigh which was farther north than the center of the county. A group of men had met at the Liberty Church in 1852, and had made plans for the establishment of Harrisburg almost in the exact center of the county.

After much urging, petitions were passed, and an election was held in 1857, on the proposition of moving the county seat to Harrisburg. Harrisburg won the election by fifteen votes which did nothing to allay the bitterness of the contest. A suit was filed by the Raleigh proponents but never was brought to trial, and finally was thrown out of court. This was not done until 1859, and during the controversy, the Circuit Court continued to meet at Raleigh.

At the conclusion of the controversy, the County Commissioners Court, in 1859, appointed William H. Parish and Green B. Raum to select a third person and choose a site in Harrisburg upon which to construct a courthouse.

In April 1859, the Circuit Court met for the first time in Harrisburg with Judge Willis Allen presiding. At that time, Hiram Burnett was yet the clerk, Edward Pearce was State's attorney, and Willis Stricklin was sheriff. One murder case was tried at that term and the defendant found not guilty.

The first naturalization cases in Saline County were presented at that term. Charles Nyberg, a citizen and native of Sweden, appeared before the Court and presented an application to become a citizen which he had on February 3, 1854, filed with the Circuit Court in the State of Tennessee. The Court heard Nyberg's proof and granted his petition. Nyberg took the oath and became the first naturalized citizen of Saline County. On the same day, Charles Mott, a native of Baden, Germany, and John Wiedemann, a native of the Kingdom of Prussia [sic] were also granted citizenship papers.

The business before the April 1860, Term of the Court reflected the disturbed conditions in Saline County in that period immediately before the outbreak of the Civil

War. During that term the Court heard seven cases for assault to murder, one murder case, one for tearing down advertisements, thirteen cases for assault to do bodily injury, ninety cases for selling liquor in quantities under one gallon, two cases for passing counterfeit money, three cases for larceny, two cases for public indecency, one for assault with a deadly weapon, one for disturbing the peace, one for disturbing a worshipping congregation, eight for keeping tippling houses open on Sunday, fifteen for gaming, one for keeping a gaming house, one for malicious mischief, one for disturbing a family at night, one for unlawful assembly, two for resisting an officer, one for incest, sixteen cases for attachment, one for bastardy, four for slander, five divorce cases, twenty-five cases for debt, two cases for rioting, two ejectment suits, and one for betting on dice. In addition, there were a number of foreclosure suits started by Green B. Raum as drainage commissioner, among them being the Ingersoll suits mentioned before.

However, the foreclosure suits against the Ingersolls were not the only matters affecting them at this April 1860, Term. On April 11, 1860, the grand jury indicted Robert G. Ingersoll on a charge of unlawfully making an assault with a knife held in his right hand on one certain William Griffin with the intent to inflict bodily injury where "no considerable provocation appeared."

The facts in the case were that Jarvis Pearce owned and operated a grocery and liquor store on the southwest corner of the Public Square in Harrisburg. As usual in those times, there was a large cheese "hoop" on the counter together with a cheese knife used to slice off bits of cheese. Present in the store at the time were Willis Stricklin, William H. Dove, James Pearce, and Howard Gaskins, in addition to Griffin. It appeared that both Bob Ingersoll and Griffin, as well as

perhaps the others, were drinking. An argument arose, and Ingersoll, becoming incensed, seized the cheese knife and took out after Griffin. Griffin thought flight the better part of valor and Ingersoll was unable to catch him but did chase him out of the store and a short distance away.

Bail was fixed at two hundred dollars which Ingersoll promptly filled. His bond was signed by S. D. Puterbaugh, an attorney of Peoria, with whom the Ingersoll brothers were closely associated. Puterbaugh became later an authority and author of text books about chancery and common law pleading.

The case dragged through the Court for several years. On August 21, 1861, the clerk's minutes show the case continued by agreement. It was again continued at the April, 1862, Term of Court. At the March, 1863, Term, it was again continued on the ground that Robert G. Ingersoll was in the service of the United States. At one time, the case was called for trial and the bond forfeited because neither Ingersoll nor his surety, Puterbaugh, appeared, but there is no further order to indicate any effort was made to collect from the surety. The case was last called for trial on September 10, 1866, at which time it was stricken from the docket with leave to reinstate. Thus ended the matter of the People vs Robert G. Ingersoll over a cheese knife indiscreetly used in a corner saloon.

About the same time as the Ingersoll melee, the records show three prosecutions against persons charged with selling playing cards. Two of the accused came clear, but the third was found guilty and fined ten dollars and costs.

The first record of probate matters in the County Commissioners Court appears on April 16, 1849, in the matter of the estate of William Evans, deceased. The

second probate case dealt with the matter of the estate of William Williford, deceased. Noah Williford appeared on January 7, 1850, and made application for letters of administration. The letters were ordered to issue, and James Feazel signed the administrator's bond as surety. The third case was on February 1, 1850. On that date, Judge Elder ordered that letters of administration issue to Elizabeth Marlow in the matter of the estate of Chapman Marlow, deceased.

As has been noted, when Saline County was formed, its government for the county was guided by the county commission form. After the Constitution of 1848, this was changed somewhat to the County Commissioners Court consisting of a judge and two associate justices. The Constitution of 1870 provided that the voters of a county might determine to come under the township form of county government. As might have been expected, there was constant agitation to bring Saline County under the township form.

In 1878, John C. Matthews and others petitioned for an election to vote on the change. The petition was filed on September 4, 1878, and the election was held on November 5 but the proposition to change was defeated. On September 3, 1883, Nelson Webber and others petitioned for another election, and the result again was against the change. A third election was held in 1888, and for a third time the voters refused to make a change to the township form. The fourth, and successful, effort to make the change was made at an election held on November 5, 1889, and on December 17, 1889, commissioners were appointed to divide the county into townships.

On January 20, 1890, the special commissioners divided the county into thirteen townships, or rather, ten full and three half townships. The full townships were:

Galatia, Brushy, Douglas, Stonefort, Raleigh, Harrisburg, Independence, Eldorado, Cottage, and Somerset. The half townships were: Hall, Texas, and Long Branch.

The county commissioners, at their January meeting, changed the names of four of the townships. Hall was renamed Tate; Douglas was renamed Carrier Mills; Eldorado was renamed East Eldorado; and Somerset was renamed Mountain. Regular town elections were held in April, 1890, for the election of supervisors. Those elected held a special meeting in the office of the county clerk in the courthouse on April 24, 1890, and the first regular meeting of the county board of supervisors was held on May 2, 1890. The county has continued under the township form of county government continuously since that date.

The only other courts of record ever in the county are the City Courts of Harrisburg and Eldorado. Mayor Sam W. Latham of Eldorado and the council passed an ordinance, in 1923, providing for an election on the question of establishing a City Court. The election resulted in an affirmative vote, and in the ensuing election to select a judge, Arthur W. Summers was chosen as the first city judge of the Eldorado City Court.

On November 1, 1909, under Mayor James B. Blackman, and the council, an ordinance was passed providing for an election on November 23 to determine whether the voters desired to establish a City Court in the city of Harrisburg. The vote was in favor of the establishment of the Court, and on January 4, 1910, at an election to select a judge of the City Court, A. E. Somers was chosen as the first city judge of the city of Harrisburg.

VI.

Churches and Religious Worship

By T. Leo Dodd

The Country Meeting House *

There's a white meeting house, in the edge of a wood,
That when built was a place where forest trees stood;
It is small and old-fashioned, with seats of white pine,
But when 'twas erected, folks thought it was fine.

'Tis the church where our fore-fathers, dressed in their best,
Would attend long ago to pray and to rest,
While they listened to sermons by preachers devout,
Who preached with such feeling their hearers would shout.

Then large congregations would come; they would walk,
They came in farm-wagons with clatter and talk;
A few rode in buggies, with half-hidden pride
That others would notice and often deride.

But all went to meeting, for all felt the good
That the little church did, in the edge of the wood;
They felt, that on Sunday, they ought God to praise,
For His goodness and mercy upon the week days.

In the church-yard adjacent, the graves of the men
And the women are crowded who went to church then;
There our fore-fathers rest, they did what they could
While they lived, for the church in the edge of the wood.

THE history of any country or any part of a country is very closely allied with the history of its churches. One of the first things the youth learns as he begins to study history as it pertains to the settlement of the colonies is that religious oppression in Europe drove the Pilgrims, the Puritans, and other groups across the Atlantic, and that they found the freedom they sought, if not much else, in the New World.

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There were various denominational groups and churches that helped to establish the character of the early life in Saline County. Since there was, from the beginning, virtually, and eventually, complete separation of church and state affairs, the chronicles of the churches do not furnish documentary materials to shed light on the affairs of state in America, but since the people of the churches were also the people of the state, the record of their religious activities may help, in small measure at least, to reveal the sources, and perhaps the solutions to some of their problems.

Burns of Kentucky said about religion in his State: "There are about forty kinds of Baptists in Kentucky, and most of them are some other kind." The same thing is seen to be true on a smaller scale when the history of almost any denomination in Saline County for the past century is studied.

While it will be impossible to discuss completely all Saline County churches, it seems proper to single out denomination since Saline County has the distinction of being the birthplace of one Christian denomination—the Social Brethren. It was organized in August 1867, near Eagle postoffice, on the boundary of Saline County.

The Reverend Robert Dawson is the oldest minister in point of service as well as in point of age in the county. He was born in middle Tennessee, October 26, 1846, and is now living in Wasson, Saline County. He celebrated his one hundredth birthday on October 26, 1946, and preached in the Social Brethren Church at Wasson on that day. He did not participate in the organization of the denomination, but he began preaching for the Social Brethren soon after its organization.

Inasmuch as the Reverend Dawson's age almost coincides with the age of Saline County; since he has preached for over seventy-five years; has been a citizen of Illinois

over seventy years, and of Saline County for more than fifty-five years, he merits the title, "The Saline County Centennial Churchman."

It was from his remarkable recollection of events in detail, recounted in a most pleasant manner, that much of the following material concerning the Social Brethren, as well as the ways of people in early years of the county's history, was taken. The task of writing this chapter was lightened considerably by the pleasure of the interview with the Reverend Dawson.

It is regrettable that the spirit, enthusiasm, and expression of the old minister cannot be transferred to the printed page. At one question he chuckled and said, "Ah, that takes me back to my boyhood days."

The Reverend Dawson was converted in a Free Will Baptist service. He united with that denomination and began preaching for it on October 23, 1877. He transferred his membership to the Social Brethren soon after its organization and continued as one of the leading ministers of the denomination. He served as pastor of several of its churches until very recent years.

According to the record, and to the Reverend Dawson, the membership of the Social Brethren in the beginning was made up largely of members from other denominations who had become dissatisfied with certain points of doctrine and practice in their respective denominations. It became impossible for them to unite upon any established order, and the result was that the new denomination came into being with its own code of rules and its interpretation of Scriptures applicable to the controversial points of doctrine and practice. The denomination extended until it comprised three associations: Saline, Gallatin, and Pope. At present, there are two associations: Illinois and Union.

In the early days, religious worship in all denomina-

tions was characterized by "much friendship, love, and hospitality; religion was a power." Of course, the church was the community center. People attended all churches regardless of denomination, if such churches were close enough to be reached by the available methods of travel. The church service provided the opportunity for social as well as spiritual activities. About the only other opportunities for social enjoyment were furnished by the frequent "workings," such as house raisings, harvesting, hog killings, husking bees, and parties. The whole family attended all these affairs.

Transportation to church and elsewhere was on foot, horseback, ox drawn carts or wagons, (often log wagons), and later by buggies and surreys. Often in the summer time, when the people were walking to church, they would carry their shoes most of the way, and when near the church, the girls would say, "You boys walk on, we'll put on our shoes." On the way home, the process was repeated in reverse.

Shoes were scarce. One pair per person per year was about the quota. The Reverend Dawson remembered his first pair of shoes. His father made them, using wooden pegs, and gave them to him on Christmas Day. Before that time, if young Dawson wanted to go rabbit hunting, as he often did, he wrapped his feet in old sacks, heavy stockings, or whatever was at hand.

Nearly every father was a cobbler, barber, gunsmith, blacksmith, and carpenter as well as a farmer, while the mothers spent their "leisure time" in carding wool, knitting, weaving, quilting, making soap, tending garden, raising poultry, drying fruit and pumpkin, and making clothing for the entire family.

Most homes knew cord beds, trundle beds, candles and grease lamps, coffee mills, hominy, dried fruit, home-woven woolen dress goods, woolen socks and stockings,

fireplaces, spinning wheels, looms, gourd dippers, home-made furniture, and candle molds. Elsewhere about the place might be found an ash hopper, cradle, scythe, frow, adz, mud boat, ox bow, cord wood, powder horn, muzzle-loading guns, bullet molds, tobacco sticks and knives, and bootjack.

Naturally, none of these implements of labor were in the log church houses, and so when the "whole family went to church," they rested, worshipped, and warmed by the fireplaces, later replaced by wood-burning stoves. They enjoyed the light cast by numerous candles while the preacher read his text and often "lined the songs" by the better light from grease lamps that graced the pulpit. Services were from one and a half to two hours in length ordinarily, but if there were a good response to the altar call, a service sometimes went on for five or six hours.

Services often were suspended in weather when the roads were bad and it was difficult to heat the building, but lost time was made up in camp meeting season. Camp meetings lasted for ten or twelve days. People for miles around took up temporary living quarters on the ground. Funerals frequently were conducted out of doors, especially at the grave side when good weather permitted. Burials usually were made in small family cemeteries near the home. Weddings were brief and solemn. Most of them lasted.

The preacher received many invitations to "go home" with some of the members of the church. He was treated as a special guest. Sometimes there was venison, wild turkey, and often biscuits. Small game abounded and usually graced the table in season. The preacher's pay from necessity was made partly in such valuable things as a shoulder of meat, sometimes a whole hog, potatoes,

corn, flour, meal, and a little money. The little money went a long way in those days.

Church and family discipline was much more severe and strict then than now. Someone has said that "there is just as much authority in the home now as ever before, but the only difference is now it is exercised by the children."

Thank you, Saline County Centennial Churchman — the Reverend Robert Dawson.

The most powerful single influence in all history has been Christianity. This influence has shown itself not only in the religious beliefs and spiritual ideals of the human race but in the march of political events and institutions as well. This statement is equally true whether one is considering the world, national or local history. For that reason, in order to know Saline County, we must know its churches. This can best be done by making a short survey of the missionary work in the Illinois country while it yet was a part of the Northwest Territory and carry this survey through to our own time.

Illinois was first explored and settled by the French accompanied by the Jesuit priests. Thus, we know the Catholics were the first to start work here. Church records tell us that John Evans Finley, a Presbyterian minister, from Chester County, Pennsylvania, arrived in Kaskaskia in 1797, but remained only a short time for fear of forced enrollment in the militia. In the fall of 1812, the Massachusetts and Connecticut Missionary Societies sent John F. Schermerhorn and Samuel J. Mills to this country. They touched at certain points of the territory and went on down the Mississippi River with Jackson to New Orleans.

The next exploring missionary tour was made, in 1814, by Samuel J. Mills and Daniel Smith. These men



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Methodist Church, Eldorado.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

First Baptist Church, Eldorado.



First Presbyterian Church, Eldorado.

PHOTO COURTESY CHURCH



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Ivory Baptist Church, Eldorado.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Russian Orthodox Church, Muddy.

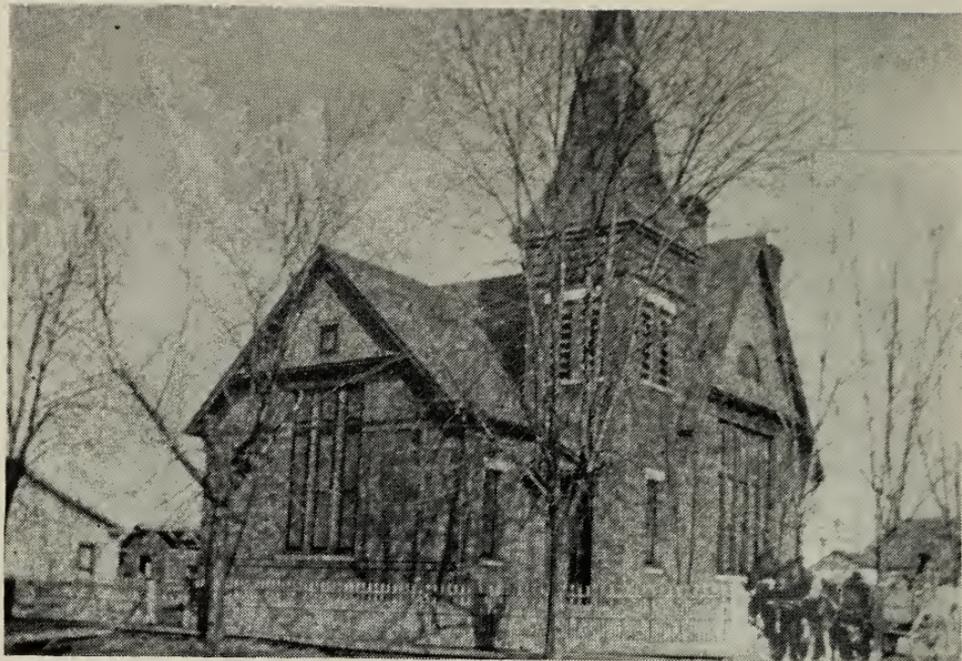


PHOTO COURTESY MR. AND MRS. JAMES SCOTT

First Baptist Church, Harrisburg.

Donated by Robert Mick, 1885.



PHOTO COURTESY MR. AND MRS. JAMES SCOTT

Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Corner Jackson and Poplar
Streets, Harrisburg.

were sent out by the Massachusetts Missionary Society and Philadelphia Bible Society. From Cincinnati, Ohio, they passed through the southern part of Indiana and Illinois and stopped at Shawneetown on their way to St. Louis. Here they were told there was not a Bible in the whole territory, and no place to buy one. A resident of Shawneetown informed these pious missionaries that he had tried for ten or fifteen years to obtain a copy of the Bible but had never succeeded. On returning to the East, these missionaries recommended that fifty Bibles be sent to St. Louis and fifty to Shawneetown, and that at least one missionary be stationed in each of the States of Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri.

In Saline County, it seems most of the preaching was done in early days by Methodist and Primitive Baptist ministers. One of these Baptists, whose name is now recoverable, was Elder Stephen Stilley, who is shown by the records to have made a land entry in 1819. Preaching usually was done in log schoolhouses or private homes until the particular settlement grew large enough to erect a log church house dedicated exclusively to religious purposes. Camp meetings were frequent during the early days and many were held by the Methodist denomination. These finally became inexpedient because of the enormous task of feeding the crowds that attended. This work, as today, fell to the lot of the women. It soon became evident that many came just to be fed. Protracted meetings were preferred by the Baptists.

In reference to the religion of the early settlers, the Centennial Historical Committee of 1876 said, "On religion, they were more practical than theoretical. These plain blunt men were religious, but the crack of a rifle on Sunday morning was not unharmonious to their ears." It was not unusual for a church member to kill and skin

a deer on Sunday morning before going to church in order to be able to invite the preacher home for dinner.

One minister from the East was surprised to see the squatters come to church and take their seats with their hats on their heads and guns leaning against their shoulders. He related that after prayers he remarked to them that it was expected of all who did not have sore heads to remove their hats and women were expected to stop cooking during prayers. Everyone had an enjoyable time at "camp meetings" and "revivals." The worshippers were not afraid to shout, and now and then as late as midnight, someone would get religion and the shouting would break out anew.

The early ministers of the Methodist church in Southern Illinois were mostly itinerants. In 1812, this part of the territory was embraced in a district extending from near Cairo up the Ohio and Wabash rivers to Mt. Carmel, and above, including several churches in Indiana, with Peter Cartwright as presiding Elder.

From all available records, it seems the oldest churches in our county yet in existence are Bankston Fork Church, now known as Brushy Fork, and Bethel Creek Church. These two were charter members of Muddy River Association of Primitive Baptists, organized at Bankston Fork Church in October, 1820. Liberty Church, situated about three miles south of Harrisburg, is another old church organized about 1832.

Raleigh Church was organized as Union Church, October 19, 1837, with seven members. It grew out of a division in the old Bethel Creek Church arising from a difference regarding missions.

Wolf Creek Church, on the west edge of Eldorado, is one of the oldest congregations in Southern Illinois. Now occupying its third edifice, the church, of Primitive Baptist denomination, is much older than the city itself.

For more than 117 years, congregations have gathered there once a month on Saturday and Sunday for worship. Since the records of the church in its early days have been lost, the exact date of its organization is unknown. The first record available, in which the church is mentioned by name, is in the minutes of Muddy River Primitive Baptist Association for October, 1830, when the church was admitted to membership in the association. It is now the largest church in the association to maintain membership for so long a time. The Wolf Creek Church congregation was one of many to realize that churches should be organized in newly settled communities, and accordingly "lettered out" members to create other churches. Cottage Grove Primitive Baptist Church was formed in April, 1849, by such action. About 1870, this church combined funds with the Presbyterians and built a church that was used jointly by the two denominations for several years.

According to their record, what is now the First Baptist Church of Eldorado, was organized as the United Baptist Church, on October 30, 1850, at Wolf Creek meeting house on articles of faith of the United Baptist, Franklin Association. A. H. Benson was the first church clerk. Elder T. M. Vance was called as the first pastor in January, 1851. He served until 1862.

One of the oldest Methodist Churches in the county is Wesley Chapel, located about three miles east of Eldorado. Although early records of this church have been lost, it is known to be over one hundred years old. It was organized in the home of a pioneer family named Hinson. The family owned a double log house with a wide hall down the center. During bad weather, the services were conducted in the hall, but in mild weather the meeting took place under the branches of a mighty oak tree in the yard. Mrs. Hinson believed in keeping the

Sabbath very strictly. Therefore, all the cooking for the Sabbath was done on Saturday. Usually, she invited the entire congregation to stay for Sunday dinner and they ate food prepared the day before. She never allowed any whistling or whittling near her home on Sunday. The first building was a log house located on the ground now occupied by Wesley Cemetery.

The First Methodist Church in Eldorado was organized in 1879, by members lettered out from Wesley Chapel. Meetings were first held in a community church structure in Saline City, a settlement older than Eldorado, located just north of the present corporate limits of that city. In 1881, a Mr. Richardson and wife donated the present site, on the corner of Third and Jackson Streets, to the church. Here the first church building, a tiny frame structure, was erected. This soon was replaced by a larger frame building. In 1909, the present brick building was completed.

The first Catholic Church in the county was organized in Eldorado on June 30, 1900. On April 10, 1901, the church building was dedicated under the title of "Our Lady of Victory," by Bishop Jansen, Belleville, Illinois assisted by fifteen priests.

The first Presbyterian Church in the county is known today as Douglas Memorial Church. It is located in the country near the Hamilton County line and about six miles from the Gallatin County line. It was organized October 28, 1849, by the Reverend John Crawford of the Ridgway community, a minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination. The name given to the organization was Pleasant Grove, but in September, 1938, the name was changed to Douglas Memorial in honor of John Douglas, who emigrated from Tennessee about 1823, and settled on this land. He donated two acres of land to be used for church and cemetery purposes. A

camp meeting ground was provided and for many years camp meetings were held regularly in September.

Eldorado had a Cumberland Presbyterian Church which was in existence as early as 1861. J. L. Riley was an active member and in September, 1861, was appointed pastor of the Eldorado and Hebron churches. Riley left the presbytery in the summer of 1865. He, together with other Cumberland Presbyterians, attempted, in 1859 and 1860, to found the Cumberland Presbyterian Seminary in Harrisburg.

The church congregation lived until some time after 1872, with varying degrees of prosperity. About that time, it seems to have disintegrated, although the records show church meetings were held at irregular intervals for the next nine years, and then disappeared from view. Eight years later, on March 31, 1891, "a new church, situated at Eldorado, and to be known as the Eldorado Congregation, was received into the presbytery, and the name of its representative, J. M. Butler, placed on the roll." The Reverend Virgil W. Young, then in the lumber business in Eldorado, became the first minister, but organization efforts were slow and unsatisfactory. In the spring of 1894, an upturn was noted, and ground was broken for a new church building.

Continuous work on the part of faithful members of the congregation finally resulted in a stable church from the 1891 beginning, and this church united with the First Presbyterian denomination in the general unification of 1906. The present church building is located at 1219 Pine Street, Eldorado.

One of the later churches to be organized in Eldorado is the Calvary Baptist. It was organized June 24, 1926, with forty-three charter members. It was admitted to the Alton Association of Northern Baptist Convention, in Wood River, Illinois, in September, 1926. The first

pastor was the Reverend W. L. Patton. The present church was dedicated Sunday, June 3, 1928. The present pastor is the Reverend L. R. Liles.

The pioneer church of the southeast part of Saline County was established in 1854, with thirteen members, at the Little Saline Cemetery, near a schoolhouse, which served a scattered population of considerable area. This church was located on the Elizabethtown-Carbondale trail, one mile east of Stonefort.

The Seventh Day Baptists started a church at "Old Town," which is near the Little Saline mentioned above. This church was formed seventeen years later and is yet in existence. The seventy-fifth anniversary of its organization was celebrated in 1946. The building that is in use today is the second building that has served the congregation. Both of these buildings have been of frame construction and have stood on the same location.

The first church in Carrier Mills was organized in Cain settlement, and later moved to Carrier Mills. It was a Quaker Church, and its Carrier Mills church building was dedicated in 1884. It was the leading church there for a long time, but since has disbanded.

The First Baptist Church in Carrier Mills was organized by the Reverend W. S. Blackman, in 1884. The present brick church structure was built in 1915, when Allen Ferril was the pastor.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church in Carrier Mills was organized in 1887, and the present church building was erected in 1924.

The first church in Harrisburg was the First Methodist Church, and was organized in the autumn of 1856, under the pastorate of the Reverend B. R. Pierce. Pierce was in charge of the Raleigh circuit from September, 1855, to September, 1857. At this time, this circuit

included all of Saline County. During the first year of the Harrisburg church, the services were held in a store building erected by Jarvis Pierce and was located on the southwest corner of the public square, where John R. Jackson now operates a drug store. The second year, and for several years thereafter, the congregation worshipped in the schoolhouse at the corner of Vine and Church Streets. When the first courthouse was completed, in 1860, the church services and the Sunday School were held in that building. The plot for the first church building was purchased from Green B. and Maria Raum, and was located on South Vine Street, where the Exide Garage is today. This was a frame building, thirty by forty-five feet in dimension. It was dedicated in August, 1871, and the present brick structure, located on West Poplar Street, was dedicated November 15, 1903.

The First Baptist Church of Harrisburg was organized on February 15, 1868, with ten members. Elder B. H. Rice was the first pastor and served the church for two years. The congregation grew to a membership of forty in three years, and had a good house of worship. Robert Mick of Harrisburg, a very prominent business man, donated a new church building in 1885, and on July 12 of that year, it was dedicated. This structure was replaced in 1903, and the new church, with its additions, is the church presently being used by the congregation, and stands at the corner of Elm and Main Streets. The first church building was at the corner of Main and Church Streets, and later was sold to the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg was organized on January 14, 1884, by the Reverend R. M. Pryor, with sixteen members. John Ferrell, H. W. Goodrich, and C. C. Wilgus were elected the first ruling elders. They, at first, worshiped in the Methodist Church one

Sunday each month, having no building of their own. Next, they worshiped in the Baptist Church one Sunday each month. In the fall of 1887, the congregation, with some outside assistance, built their first house of worship at a cost of eighteen hundred dollars. The membership, in November, 1896, numbered fifty-three. The structure erected was at the northwest corner of Poplar and Jackson Streets.

The First Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg was organized on September 5, 1868, by a committee from Saline Presbytery consisting of the Reverend John Huston and the Reverend G. B. McComb, on a petition of Israel Towle, Eliza Towle, William Christy, Catherine Christy, Doctor J. F. Burks, and Sarah Burks. The first meetings were held in the courthouse. At a meeting held March 25, 1882, a committee was appointed to select a lot upon which to erect a church building. On August 10, 1882, the congregation accepted a recommendation of the committee and purchased the lot on West Poplar Street, where the Orpheum Theatre now stands. The building they started was completed about May 1, 1884, and was dedicated on June 28, 1884. It was a brick structure, thirty-two feet by forty-seven feet, and cost three thousand dollars.

In September, 1906, the First Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church united at the invitation of the First Presbyterian group. The new organization made plans to erect a new church edifice, and consequently purchased the lot on the northeast corner of Poplar and Jackson Streets, directly east and across the street from the old Cumberland church building. The present stone church building was then erected.

The First Christian Church in Harrisburg was organized on Thanksgiving Day, 1906, with thirty-five members. The new group purchased the church building

formerly used by the Cumberland Presbyterians, now useless to them because of the joinder of the two Presbyterian organizations. The Christian congregation moved the building to the corner of Raymond and McKinley Streets, and it was utilized until 1921. In the latter year, the organization purchased a lot on South Webster Street, between Poplar and Church Streets, and began the erection of a modern brick church building. Lack of finance prevented the completion of the building, but the foundation and basement parts were finished, and when roofed with a temporary roof, has been used by the congregation since that time.

The first, and only, Catholic church in Harrisburg is St. Mary's Catholic Church, and was formed in 1903. The organization meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Frank Pruett. At the request of Bishop Jansen, of Belleville, Father Hodder of Equality assumed the pastorate of the new organization in addition to his own at Equality. On his occasional visits to the congregation at first, the meetings were held in the homes of the members. By 1907, the attendance had grown until the homes were not large enough to house the congregation, and Lewis Hall, located on South Granger Street, was rented and used as a meeting house.

About this same time, a lot on North Webster Street had been purchased with the intent to use it later for a church site. In the year 1908, the lot was exchanged for a lot in the nine hundred block on South Main Street, and a church building was erected on the new site. Father G. H. Unterkoefer was the first permanent priest and remained in this parish for seven years.

The lot on South Main Street, used by the parish group, was over coal land where the coal had been removed by mining through the O'Gara No. 3 mine shaft, and in 1919, the ground upon which the church stood subsided

causing considerable damage to the church building, and rendering it unsafe for further use. The parish thereupon purchased the present church site, at the northwest corner of Locust and Jackson Streets, and the present building was erected from materials secured by razing the damaged structure on South Main Street.

One of the first colored churches in Harrisburg was the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. It was organized in 1880, in a little cabin a short distance in the country outside the city, by the Reverend Richard Price, one of the first colored ministers to start serious efforts to weld a church organization in this part of the county. The first colored church group was the African Methodist Episcopal Church, organized in the summer of 1875, with eight members. The house in which they worshipped was built in 1884, by Thomas Clark. The present church is located on Gaskins Street, near Main Street, and the building used was purchased from the First Baptist Church, when the latter organization moved from the building, then on the corner of Main and Church Streets, to their new home on North Main and Elm Streets. In 1896, this colored organization had a membership of fifty, of which twenty-five were non-resident members.

The first church in Lakeview, or the "Pond Settlement," as it was formerly known, located south of Carrier Mills, was a log building erected on the acre of ground given by Byrd Taborn for a Union burial ground and a church. It was a community church, and ministers of any denomination were welcome to preach whenever one happened to be in that vicinity. This Union church was provided about 1850.

About 1890, an acre of ground was purchased by a group of settlers who had organized a Missionary Baptist Church. This acre bounded the Union burial ground on the south. In 1891, the construction of the Mount Zion

Missionary Baptist church was begun. The frame building is yet standing and is in use at the present time. Another group of these colored settlers organized a Methodist church about 1880, and held services in a log building about one-half mile south of the village of Carrier Mills. The first pastor was the Reverend J. H. Sydes. A few years later, a log church was built a mile farther south, and in 1902, a frame building was erected one-fourth mile east of the log church. This building burned in 1909, and was rebuilt in 1910, in the village of Carrier Mills, where it is in use today. The Church of God was organized in 1916, and a frame building was erected about three hundred yards north of the school. This building is still in use.

The Galatia Baptist Church was organized in 1861, with thirteen charter members. Elder John A. Rodman was pastor for a number of years, and the congregation grew until the need for a house of worship was strong enough that a building was started. It remained unfinished for a number of years.

According to the *Harrisburg Chronicle* of November 27, 1896, the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Galatia had just erected a new brick building. "The walls are of pressed brick, laid in white mortar. It has raised floor, circular seats, excellent furnishings throughout, and superior acoustic proportions. It is indeed a 'thing of beauty' and a perpetual 'joy' to those who worship therein." This church organization is 102 years old, and celebrated its centennial, on August 17, 1945. At this time, in Galatia, there were two other churches besides the Baptist and Methodist, namely: The Cumberland Presbyterian and an African Methodist Episcopal.

A fairly recent church, but the only one of its kind in the county, is the Russian Orthodox Church at Muddy. It was formed in 1913. The present congregation con-

sists of but three families, and a visiting priest comes occasionally to hold services.

One very important contribution which church history makes to the general history of Saline County is relative to immigration. The following deductions are drawn from a study of biographical sketches of twelve hundred ministers published in 1909, containing records of ministers born as early as 1753. In most denominations in early days, the ministers moved along with their neighbors and church members from one part to another of a new country. Most of the preachers were better educated than the members of their churches, but few of them were schooled in colleges or seminaries. Most of them had other sources of income besides the ministry, because church membership was small and money was scarce.

The following general directions of immigration were discovered:

- 1—From England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and Germany, usually to the northern half of the Atlantic Seaboard States.
- 2—Southward along the Atlantic Seaboard into North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.
- 3—From the southern states northward into Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, and Illinois.
- 4—From Illinois and surrounding states into the west and northwest.

A casual study of the charted movements of the people reveals that Southern Illinois and Saline County were crossroads for movements south-north and east-west. This seems to be a safe criterion for determining the trends of immigration in general.

An interesting light is cast on the geographical features considered important and favorable by the pioneers by a study of church names. Not all of these churches

were in Saline County, but all were in Southern Illinois, and are names given to churches over one hundred years ago. Some examples are: Ten Mile Creek, Big Mount Prairie, Middle Fork, Bethel Creek, Lusk Creek, Lick Creek, Island Ripple, North Fork Saline River, Burnt Prairie, Hargrave Prairie, Muddy Bridge, Wolf Creek, Rector Creek, Little Springs, Grand Pierre, Moore's Prairie. These names, and many others from all denominations in the county in its early days, indicates that the immigrants sought out the streams and settled near them where water supply and water power for grist-mills would be available. Later, prairies began to be important.

The State of Illinois was only two years old when the first association of churches was formed. Small clearings; log houses for residences, schools and churches; narrow crooked swampy roads; small settlements; few neighbors; the memory of hostile Indians; chills, malaria, home-made medicine and remedies; distant markets; primitive tools for farming and housekeeping; few schools, few books, short terms; poor—at least, poorly paid teachers; these were some of the many handicaps under which all the people existed. It is small wonder that their Bibles, religion, and churches were real and highly treasured in their lives. In 1821, the following entry was written in the minutes of their association: "The time has rolled on that God in His kind providence hath permitted us to meet in an associate capacity in this part of the world, where, a few years past was a wilderness inhabited by Indians and wild beasts." Then the writer addressed himself to the task of expounding on the subject of Christian faithfulness. "This," he said, "we fear hath been too much neglected, and confident we are that the neglect of this duty will cause our misery to arise."

Probably Bibles were read, studied, and talked about more than all other books. Children were given Bible names quite generally. In the year 1823, of the twenty-four messengers sent to the association, twelve bore such given names as: Lazarus Webb, Jacob Karns, Moses Pierce, Abel Rice, Alexander Jones, Daniel Powell, David Jones, and Isaac Hix. Bible study and emulation are revealed again in the same record, when by the association's action, July 4, 1833 was designated as a day to be observed in humiliation and prayer.

The record is replete with peculiar expressions, which probably came from the South, Puritan, or Bible influence.

"Holden," for convened.

"The Lord's Day," for Sabbath, or as we usually say, Sunday.

"In case of failure," was the way an alternate delegate was designated.

The minutes were "struck," never printed.

A series of references tells us something about prices, markets, and legal tender. Prices for causing copies of the Association Minutes to be "struck":

1820—100 for \$12.00; 1822—200 for \$8.00; 1824—300 for \$10.00; 1825—350 for \$8.00. The best bargain was in 1831, 300 for \$6.00.

Books evidently were not obtained easily for it was three years after the clerk solemnly was ordered to purchase a book for keeping the record before he showed up with the book. One cannot believe it was due to neglect. Perhaps the brother could not get to town—at least, not to a town where such merchandise was for sale. For this book, the treasurer was ordered to pay out "one dollar in specia or paper"; sometimes it was called "state paper."

Sometimes, one of the churches would send as its contribution to the expense of conducting the association as much, or as little, as \$1.25. Much or little, which was it? \$1.25 would pay for any one acre of the fine, rich black land now known as the Horse Shoe Swamps, south of Eldorado and east of Harrisburg. Today, this land will produce annually at least seventy-five bushels of hybrid seed corn that will sell for ten dollars a bushel. Nobody wanted the land then. It was a swamp. Perhaps the church sent quite a sum of money, as money came in those days.

Relative costs of travel and carrying the U. S. mail are revealed by the record that in the same year two payments for reimbursement were authorized. One was "pd. Bro. Henderson, expense incurred as a messenger to Little River Association in Kentucky, 50 cents." The other was "pd. Bro. Morris, postage on a letter to Philadelphia, 25 cents." Now, one supposes Henderson swam the Ohio River, for there wasn't any bridge and he certainly could not wheedle any of the ferry pilots of this day down to fifty cents for a round trip. No doubt; he and his horse were boarded enroute, and on the return with some of the good brethren, and maybe preached at some of the churches along the way. But Morris didn't seem to know any of the brethren that carried the mail. He just had to produce the twenty-five cents for postage and wait a year to collect.

In the year 1824, the treasurer somehow got stuck with a half-cent. For years that half-cent showed up right along—always in the balance carried forward for the next year—and sometimes there wasn't so much with it. You can imagine with what interest the writer followed the accounting for that fraction—1824, 1825, 1830—right on down. It began to appear that it would haunt the record forever, and the suspicion arose that

some treasurer had violated his sacred trust, and it would be discovered, (perish the thought), and that one of the brethren should have been—probably would have been—churched. That study, like many others, was more engaging than a modern detective story. But it all came out well. The only thing not true to the old formula was that they did not live happily ever afterward. It took death to settle the account. The treasurer was called in death and the association took action to settle the balance of the associational fund, some \$9.11½, upon his bereaved widow, in token of appreciation of the faithful services of the late brother treasurer. One still wonders what she ever did with the half-cent. She could not be blamed for burying it with her spouse or imbedding it in his grave stone as a fitting monument to his meticulous and most scrupulous honesty.

The record to which so much reference has been made is the original, handwritten minutes of the yearly meetings of the association. The pages are yellow with age, but the characters are clear and distinct. The book is the one purchased by the secretary, three years after authorized to make the purchase. There was considerable room for improvement in the spelling and punctuation as used, or misused, in the record. For instance, on the title page is found, "A Book, in which, the proceedings, of the Muddy River Baptized Association, are recorded." But one cannot criticize too severely. Not so long ago, a group of high school seniors were asked to indicate their church preference. Over half the Baptists misspelled the denominational title and all the Presbyterians, save one, missed the spelling of that church name. But the penmanship was another story. Page after page of the book is written in most perfect characters. Capital letters on title pages are very ornate, and shading, perhaps with hand-made quill pens, was



First Methodist Church,
Carrier Mills.



First Baptist Church,
Harrisburg, 1947.



First Baptist Church,
Carrier Mills.



Sykes Garris Chapel
near
Stonefort.

PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER



Wolf Creek
Primitive
Baptist
Church.

PHOTO COURTESY T. LEO DODD

Liberty
Baptist
Church.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

quite generally employed. One can easily read between those lines the pride and devotion to his church that was experienced by the clerk, and no doubt, his attitude was reflected among most of the membership.

At present, there are approximately fifty active churches in Saline County, with a total membership of over 10,000. The Southern Baptist denomination has the largest following and the Methodist next in size of membership.

Today, as in the beginning of community life in this part of the country now known as Saline County, devotional service is an integral part of the way of life. Whether in a simple log dwelling, in a schoolhouse, in a log meeting house, or in an imposing modern edifice, whether by candle light or graced by artistically arranged modern lighting effects, worship was, and is, the worship of the Lord. He is! He is the Creator and the Savior. The time in which men live dictates the materials incidental to public worship. The purpose remains the same. So long as the people do not lose sight of God, whether the way is quite difficult, as in pioneer time, or quite easy as in our time, so long as we are a church-going and a church-loving people we shall be a worthy people. The church is worth working for, worth praying for, and worth dying for, if need be.

God bless the churches throughout the ages.

VII.

Schools of Saline County

By Florence L. Hancock

NOTHING is closer to the heart of the American people than education. Every phase of our society is dependent upon it. Religion would be meaningless without the education necessary to interpret it. Industry would show little progress without the understanding of the forces of nature. Educated husbandry is essential to productive farming. There could be no government in the true sense of the word without education. Culture abounds only when people spend time in pursuit of knowledge. The colonists and early settlers of this country were well aware of the necessity for learning, and those who emigrated westward were no exception.

In most instances, the settlers had no more than built their homes, blockhouses, and churches than they turned their attention to finding some place for their children to start their education. While it is true that these places often were inadequate, the buildings, crude and uncomfortable, and the teachers poorly qualified, nevertheless, the settlers made an effort to have their children acquire as much knowledge as possible.

Education received its beginning in this territory when the French first arrived. From reports of the missionary priests, it appears that there was some plan for schooling followed in the early French and Indian settlements. It is probable that nothing beyond the requirements of the church were taught, yet it was a beginning.

Little or nothing was done toward education during the British rule from 1765 to 1778. When the Revolutionary War ended, numbers of the men who had fought in this territory, moved from their homes in Kentucky, Virginia, and the Carolinas and made Southern Illinois their new home. Many of these were well educated, and it was through them that our schools, in the real meaning of the word, were started in Southern Illinois.

It was not until 1818, when the Territorial Legislature of Illinois asked Congress for permission to form a constitution for the Territory's preparation to come into the Union, that there was any constructive legislation passed carrying any benefit for Southern Illinois schools. Nathaniel Pope was asked to prepare the enabling act inasmuch as he was the Delegate in Congress, and a member of the Committee on Territories to which the prayer was referred. The act was written, and the original draft amended, but our interest is in the part of the act pertaining to schools.

The sixth section had four clauses, each of which referred to offers of land from the Federal Government to the State of Illinois. First, that section sixteen in each township be given to the State "for use of the inhabitants of such townships for the use of the schools." Second, that salt lands be given to the State. Third, that the State should reserve five per cent of the sale of public lands—two per cent for the improvement of roads which lead into the State, and three per cent for school purposes, and one-sixth of the three per cent, or one-half of one per cent, to be given to a college or university. Fourth, that an entire township be set aside to be vested in the state legislature for a seminary of learning.

The first provision gave the State nearly a million acres of land from which the permanent township fund has derived the proceeds. By 1912, this fund was more than five million dollars. The third clause made a fund of over six hundred thousand dollars from the three per cent of the sale of property, and two hundred thousand dollars from the one-sixth part of the three per cent fund. Clause four, or the seminary fund, amounted to sixty thousand dollars.

The message of Governor Bond to the legislature, in

1819, recommended that there be a revision of the laws, particularly those pertaining to education. The legislature responded and passed a law making it an offense to cut trees from any school land, and also a law permitting the lease of any or all school lands, the rentals which should be applied to the cause of education.

The following year, 1820, in his message to the legislature, the Governor urged the furtherance of education by founding "a seminary of learning" to be located in the new capitol, Vandalia. The legislature took some steps toward advancing education that term but nothing that resulted in actual school work for Saline County.

Joseph Duncan introduced the bill in the state senate in 1825 which was the first effort to provide a free school system in the State. There were many good provisions for schools in the bill, and it became a law. Schools were to be provided in each county, and there were provisions for the election of officers for the schools. Money was to be supplied for school buildings and their maintenance from taxes to be paid in money or in merchantable produce. In 1825, and again in 1827, the law was so modified by the legislature that the schools were retarded; and in 1829, a law was passed which did away with any progress that might have been made. From that time until 1855, school systems in Illinois, including Saline County, were principally subscription schools.

From the recollections of the few remaining pioneers, we know that elementary schools were held before 1847, in what is now Saline County. We are indebted to early writers for descriptions of three of the first school buildings in this area. The first two were south of Somerset, near Rudement, and the third was located at Carrier Mills.

Possibly the oldest of these buildings was the one

constructed by Charles Mick and Hugh Lambert in 1823. This building, as was common in those days, was built of logs, and was fourteen feet wide and sixteen feet long. There being no facilities for building a chimney, heat was provided by a fireplace outside an opening in one end of the building. This school was taught by a man by the name of Taylor. The record shows that he was chosen for the position because of a physical disability which made it impossible for him to labor as other men. The school term was of three months duration and Taylor's salary was fixed at twelve dollars a month. Seven pupils attended the school.

The next school was a larger and better school, and was built in Section twenty, about two miles to the southwest. During this same period, another was erected in Section twenty-eight, Township nine, Range five. While it, too, was a log building, it did boast a clay chimney. One of the early teachers was a man named Sloan. This is now known as the Salem school located in the present Thompson school district not far from Carrier Mills. The village was then named Morrelsville.

The three month term was common and usual in the early schools. School was held in the fall of the year. Difficulties encountered during the hard winters in heating the buildings, and the fact the pupils were needed on the farms most often in the spring and summer, made the fall term the most expedient time of the year to attend school. However, the winter months were an excellent time for adult education. This usually was carried on by some kind hearted pioneer who was willing to impart his bit of knowledge to his good neighbors.

In the *Life and Works of Dr. F. F. Johnson*, the author describes an early school near Raleigh which he taught in a room of his own home. He says, "It was in the spring of 1855 . . . after starting the plow, I turned

my attention to fixing up the east room of our home in which to teach school." He goes on to say that this early school was typical of many others of that day. It was a room fifteen feet square, without windows but with a small light hole, ten by fourteen inches, near the fireplace. It had a stick and mud chimney, puncheon floor, slat seats, and the house was covered with oak boards, three feet long, laid on a ridge pole and weighted down. This was a three months subscription school. The teacher charged a small fee for each pupil per month or quarter.

The following year, Doctor Johnson was engaged to teach the "free school" at Raleigh. He received a salary of twenty-four dollars a month. Of this school, he wrote, "The school house where I taught that fall and winter was a log structure about sixteen feet square, with a door in one end and a dirt chimney in the other." He stated further that it had a wide fireplace, and the two rows of seats had no backs. A window in one side of the house was made by hand, and filled with eight by ten inch window panes. A long seat, made of plank and having wooden legs, was placed directly under the window, and a desk made of the same material and of equal length served as a writing desk. All the firewood used was cut and carried from the forest nearby. Long before school started in the morning, Doctor Johnson would have a roaring fire ready. At times, it would be so very cold that students took turns sitting by the fire.

In many instances, the work of instructing the young people was carried on by the faithful minister, as was true in the case of the Reverend W. S. Blackman, a former county superintendent of schools, who gives a most entertaining account of the early schools in his *Boy of Battle Ford*. Some of the early teachers named in this work are, "A man named Blair," 1846; Henry Garner,

1848; a Mr. Beard, who had the distinction of being an educated man; A. B. Pulliam, 1850; Jonathan Abney, 1851, and a Doctor Willis. Blackman referred to his own teaching of music as a "sort of dessert."

The Census of 1850 throws an interesting light on the educational progress of Saline County three years after its formation. We find fifteen schools and 410 pupils in attendance. Adult illiterates numbered 735, of which 322 were male and 413 female. There was a school fund of eight hundred dollars, and an additional fund from other sources of thirteen hundred fifty dollars. In 1860, there were five frame and twenty-two log school houses in the county, but frame construction was beginning to replace that of logs. A report for the year 1868, eight years later, states that there were then thirty-nine log buildings, eighteen frame, and three of brick.

By this time, the open fireplaces were being replaced by pot-bellied stoves, but coal was not yet used as a fuel for heating. The double seats were now factory made; slates were used for most of the copy work, as paper yet was very scarce; but copy books were used to teach writing. Among the text books used were *Ray's Arithmetic*, *Clark's Grammar*, *Sander's Speller*, and *Barnes' History*. The school was the center of the social and intellectual life of the community, and literary societies furnished pleasant recreation. Frequently, these meetings were held during the long, dreary winter months. Debating, ciphering games, spelling matches, and impromptu programs furnished clean, wholesome amusement for adults as well as the young folks, and were very popular and well attended.

One of the first brick school houses in the county was built in the old village of Stonefort, about two miles east and a little south of the present town of that name.

It replaced the pioneer school house of that locality, a log building which stood in the Little Saline Grove, and which also housed one of the pioneer churches—Little Saline Church. The “old brick,” a two story structure, where most of the older residents received their education in that community, was built in the early 1860’s. The upper story was used by the Lodge No. 495, F. & A. M., as a meeting place. The foundation of this building was of hand-hewn sandstone, quarried from the hills nearby. The brick used was made and baked near the site, and like most of the brick used in those days, was not very hard, and called “soft brick.” As a result, the building began to deteriorate within a few years and became dangerous and unfit for school use. It was condemned and torn down about 1895. Some early teachers there were Will E. Chitwood, Robert Lewis, and A. J. Walker.

As we look back today, the progress in education in the nineteenth century seems slow in Saline County. This might be said of most of the area west of the Appalachians. Teachers’ preparation remained inadequate; the pay was poor; and the school terms short. The school directors found it difficult to keep up with the rapid increase in our school population. As late as 1904, there were some districts in the county that had but four months for a school term. Not long after that date, a state law was passed requiring a term of one hundred ten days if the district was to share in the state distributive fund.

No one realized the need for higher educational standards more than did the teachers themselves. County Superintendent James E. Jobe called the first teachers’ meeting in the hope of bringing about some needed improvements in the teaching profession. In 1903 and 1904, a tri-county association was formed by the teach-

ers of Williamson, Saline, and Johnson Counties. The next year, it became a five-county meeting by the addition of Pope and Pulaski counties. Because of poor transportation facilities, this gave way finally to the meeting at Carbondale, now known as the southern division of the Illinois Educational Association.

The Saline County teachers adopted a salary scale in 1904. The school districts were rated according to their ability to pay, that is, the assessed valuation of the property in each county. This scale has been adjusted from time to time and continues in use at the present. No teacher who regards highly the ethics of the profession will accept a school contract for less than the amount provided in the scale.

For many years, the Saline County Teachers' Association held a five-day institute in August of each year. We get a little insight into the problems of the day when we consider some of the resolutions adopted at these institutes. In 1917, a resolution was passed suggesting efforts to place each rural school graduate in a high school. The Institute, on August, 1919, passed a resolution to discipline any teacher accepting a contract under the scale by requiring the payment into the treasury of the association of the difference in the salary accepted and the amount set out in the scale. In 1920, a resolution demanded that the county superintendent of schools place all teachers holding valid certificates before issuing emergency certificates.

The five-day August institute passed into history in 1924. Teachers meetings are now held in March and October of each year. No attempt has been made to recount all the accomplishments of these meetings, or the organization, which did much to point the way to higher standards of education, to agitate for better school legislation, and to follow policies for the improvements of the school system in every way.

The success of any undertaking is dependent upon the able leadership it employs. Therefore, the history of rural education easily may be traced through the men who have served as county superintendents of schools since 1865. Prior to that date, this office had been combined with that of school commissioner. One of the duties of the commissioner was apportioning the school fund which had been allotted to the territory when it was a part of Gallatin County. An agreement was reached, and included in an act of the legislature in 1848, whereby Saline County was to pay Gallatin \$436, and Gallatin was to pay Saline "such portion of a certain fund as 249 is to 593." Samuel Elder served as the first school commissioner after Saline was separated from Gallatin County, and Valentine Rathbone was the last one serving. Rathbone's last report gave his title as county superintendent.

The first person to be elected county superintendent was Doctor Frederick F. Johnson. He was elected on November 7, 1865, and re-elected on November 2, 1869. Johnson was followed by Barnett L. Hall who was elected on November 4, 1873, and who served one term. Hall was succeeded by the Reverend W. S. Blackman elected on November 6, 1877. George B. Parsons was appointed superintendent under a special Act of the General Assembly, approved July 1, 1881, which granted the county board of each county the right to appoint a county superintendent of schools for one year, and until the election and qualification of his successor. This act changed the date of the elections to the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1882, and every four years thereafter.

James E. Jobe was the next superintendent elected and he served four terms. He first was elected on November 7, 1882; the second time on November 6,

1886; the third time on November 4, 1890; and the fourth and last time on November 6, 1894. Lewis E. York succeeded Jobe and was elected on November 8, 1898. He was re-elected on November 4, 1902. R. E. Rhine was the next superintendent. He was elected on November 6, 1906, and re-elected on November 8, 1910. B. D. Gates followed Rhine, having been first elected on November 3, 1914, and being re-elected on November 5, 1918. The next superintendent was A. A. Moore who served three terms. His first election was on November 7, 1922, his second on November 2, 1926, and his third on November 4, 1930. W. B. Westbrook followed Moore and was elected on November 6, 1934. He served one term, and was defeated for re-election by Kenneth Davis on November 8, 1938. Davis was re-elected on November 3, 1942. Dale Wilson, the present superintendent, was elected on November 5, 1946.

Since Harrisburg is the largest city in the county, as well as being the county seat, there is more information available from which to write the story of its schools. Organized school in this city probably had its beginning in the years 1858 and 1859. It was taught by John Gray, who came to the county from Ohio. Noah Feazel and William Gaskins, Jr., related that they received their first instruction in the a, b, and c's at this school. The first record of a school district is found in the record that Green B. Weir was elected a school director in October, 1861.

Mrs. Nora Thompson recalls that the first school in Harrisburg was held in the grand jury room of the old courthouse. She remembers sitting on the old circular staircase while she memorized her multiplication tables. The next place of the school was a one room, frame building on the corner of Vine and Church Streets, across from the present Mitchell-Carnegie Library. This single

room building soon became too small to accommodate all the pupils, and the directors rented another room in town. Even with the additional space, the students could attend school only on alternate half-days, in order that all might have equal opportunity to attend. This school term of 1863 was a three-month term. Mrs. W. E. Wiggs, who had three boys and eighteen girls as pupils, taught in one of the rooms, and Miss Lizzie Cloud, with an attendance of twenty boys and ten girls, taught in the other room. The next year, the attendance increased to forty-nine in one room, and thirty-four in the other. Matilda Glass and H. Dulaney were the teachers.

It was during this period that definite rules for the government of the school were adopted. When the hour for school was announced, all pupils were to take their seats with as little noise as possible. Each pupil was to have permission of the teacher before being permitted to leave the seat assigned. No whispering, laughing, or any other improper conduct was permitted during the hours of study. The use of bad language, such as swearing, and rough conduct, such as fighting, was forbidden. Tale-bearing was definitely discouraged. Corporal punishment was not unusual. It was said of one teacher that he rendered excellent service even though he was not "too much of a gentleman to whip a young lady with a strap." During the school hours, the pupils were interested in winning as many "head marks" as possible. These were special awards given to students whenever they succeeded in getting to the head of the class for excellence in reading, writing, and arithmetic. The old time spelling matches probably were more popular with the students than the regular routine of school work.

On October 27, 1865, an election was held on the question of purchasing block nineteen in the Gaskins' Addition to Harrisburg for a school site. All twenty-

seven votes cast at the election were favorable to the purchase. The next year, in April, the block was purchased for two hundred dollars. W. W. Peoples contracted to build the school building for \$5,990. The building was completed in 1868, and three teachers were employed—A. M. Ballard, principal, and J. M. Carter and Miss Ballard, assistants. This four-room, brick structure was the East Side school. We may well imagine the youngsters enjoying this location as it faced Gaskins Street on the east, and it was here that the wooded section began. This wooded area furnished ample space for recreational activities. The first janitor was employed at this building in 1870. The job apparently was not a popular one as there was a great number of different ones. Perhaps, the big “wage of \$3.50 a month” might have added to the dislike for the position.

The year 1875 saw the inauguration of two new plans in the Harrisburg educational system. In the first, two teachers were hired to teach two separate schools in the same room. This plan worked fairly well, in spite of the fact that there were more than one hundred pupils enrolled in the two schools. The other plan marked the beginning of a separate elementary school for colored children in Harrisburg. This plan was proposed by C. A. Blankenship, who offered to teach the colored children of the district for thirty dollars a month. He also promised that he would promptly give up his idea if his plan failed. There was no need for such condition, because he did his work with such excellence and enthusiasm that the colored school has remained to this day a part of the Harrisburg educational system.

In 1879, the board of directors decided that it would be more democratic not to choose anyone as principal. The success of this plan may be determined by the fact that the following year, the directors re-elected the

principal who had served previously to the adoption of the novel idea.

In 1881, Robert King and Eli Zeigler were hired to add a wing to the East Side School at a cost of two thousand dollars. This building was used until 1905, when it was torn down and the present Logan School building erected on the same site. The school census showed an increase to over five hundred by 1887, the greater part of the increase being in the west side of the district. Therefore, the board purchased a lot at the corner of Granger and Locust Streets from J. W. Baker for five hundred dollars, and a one-story building was erected by J. P. Hodge at a cost of \$1,402. It was ready for occupancy by 1888, and was reserved for the children in the lower grades. This was called the West Side School. In 1894, B. J. Zeigler was employed to add the second story and the building was used until 1911, when it was torn down and the present Horace Mann School erected on the same site at a cost of thirty-five thousand dollars.

Other elementary schools in Harrisburg include McKinley, December 31, 1908, at a cost of eighteen thousand dollars; Lincoln erected October 1, 1910, at a cost of twelve thousand dollars; Bayliss erected August 25, 1920, at a cost of one hundred sixty-five thousand dollars. The Logan School was erected at a cost of twenty-one thousand dollars, in 1905.

The history of the Harrisburg Township High School begins in 1890, when the first classes were organized under S. B. Allison. It was first located in the old East Side School, and the old opera house was used for graduating exercises. The first class of four pupils was graduated in 1894, under D. W. Gamble. The next graduating class of eight was under Principal T. E. Groninger, who came to Harrisburg from Galatia. In 1896, Harry Taylor became principal, and had served in that capacity for

fifty years, when he was succeeded in 1946, by R. L. McConnell, who was succeeded by R. L. Foster in 1947.

Like most of the high schools in the county, Harrisburg first started with a two-year course, then advanced to a three-year course, and in 1900, was changed to a four-year course. Four years later, it was fully accredited by the University of Illinois. A new high school building was voted in 1901, and construction of the building started the following year. The City National Bank donated the ground for the school which is located on College Street, between Granger and McKinley Streets. The class of 1904 was the first to be graduated from the newly constructed Harrisburg Township High School. The original building stands in the center of a number of additions: one to the south was added in 1914; the east wing was completed in 1922; and the west wing was added in 1938. In half a century, the enrollment was increased from 52 to 1,187. The largest graduating class was in 1940 with 226 graduates. The alumni of the school total over five thousand persons. At the present time, the school employs thirty-two teachers, a librarian, an office force, and two janitors.

Summer schools were taught for the benefit of advanced students and were known as Select or Normal schools. About 1855, there was such a school taught in Harrisburg, and one in Galatia in 1898. The classes for the Select School in Harrisburg were held in the old East Side School—the present Logan School—and were taught by N. B. Hodson, assisted by D. R. Webb, of Mt. Vernon. Both of these men were principals of the city schools in Harrisburg. Hodson was principal from 1884 to 1886, and Webb from 1886 to 1888. The school day was from eight to four, and the term lasted nine weeks. History, rhetoric, reading, singing, and spelling were the subjects included in the curriculum. Homer Collier, and

C. A. Taylor, of Harrisburg, and Mrs. J. W. Dean, of Carrier Mills, were among the students at this school.

Harrisburg was the proposed site for a Cumberland Presbyterian Seminary promoted in the latter part of 1859. The November 3, 1859, issue of the *Chronicle* contained a story of the proposed seminary which would be open to all sects although supported by the Cumberland Presbyterians. The trustees, who were the incorporators, were the Reverend Wm. Finley, of Kinmundy, W. M. Hamilton, of Vienna, R. M. Davis, of Roland, J. L. Riley, of Eldorado, and Doctor J. W. Mitchell, H. R. Pearce, and R. N. Warfield, of Harrisburg.

The plan did not gain much headway, and on February 1, 1860, Editor Conover of the *Chronicle* inquired through the columns of his paper as to its fate. Nothing further seems to have been done and the plans for the first proposed institution for higher learning in Harrisburg came to naught.

A one-room, log building housed the first school in Eldorado. It was located one block east of the site of the old No. 10 Mine, on what is now Locust Street. The next building was erected on land given by Major William Elder at the location of the present Lincoln School building. This originally was a two-room, frame building, and was enlarged by an addition after the district purchased several more lots which faced Lincoln Street. In 1894, J. W. Mathis gave the land for what is now the Washington School, and a four-room, brick building was erected. However, the center of the school system remained at the building on the site of the present Lincoln School until the term of 1896-1897.

C. A. Taylor taught in the public schools in Eldorado in 1893 and 1894, and organized the Eldorado Public High School. The course of study consisted of botany, zoology, algebra, philosophy, rhetoric, physical geogra-

phy, general history, and literature. The last class to graduate from the Lincoln School site building was the class of 1895. C. A. Taylor was the superintendent, and Annie Kipp was the principal. The members of the class were Flora Wiedemann, Annie Wathen, Ella Elder, Nelle De Wiers, Talitha Elder, Henry Westbrook, Quincy Mathis, and Joe Womack. All classes were given diplomas equivalent to the present four years high school work. During the 1895-1896 term, R. M. Jones was the superintendent, and O. L. Jones was principal. The employment of two men named Jones was a coincidence as they were not related.

The Washington School was enlarged, and in 1896, the center of education was transferred to that building. C. A. Taylor was again superintendent, and Charles Davidson was the principal. The following people constituted the first class to graduate from the high school in the Washington School building: Lottie Cox, Blanche Westbrook, Nellie Webber, Mae Murphy, Sadie Clark, and Silas Hoar.

After the citizens had voted in 1908 to establish a township high school, Henry Westbrook donated the land for a school, and a large frame building, known as "The Barn," was constructed, on the present site of the brick school. The students that year attended high school in "The Barn," while the original brick building of the present High School was being constructed.

The land for the Jefferson School building was given by John W. Elder. Both the Jefferson and the Lincoln Schools were built in 1911. There was an addition constructed to the Jefferson School in 1922.

The first class to graduate from the new Eldorado Township High School was the class of 1910. Additions to the building were made in 1922, 1930, and in 1943. The 1930 addition was a gymnasium.

M. T. Van Cleve was the first principal of the school. He served in this capacity from 1908 to 1914. Other principals were A. O. Barr, 1914-1916; James Raeburn, 1916-1930; J. Lester Buford, 1930-1932; and T. Leo Dodd, the present principal, who has served continuously since 1932. He had been on the faculty staff for fourteen years previous to his selection as principal.

The class of 1942 was the largest graduating class in the history of the school. The class contained 147 graduates. The alumni of the Eldorado Township High School number some 2,490 persons. At present, the school employs twenty-one teachers, with an enrollment of five hundred fifty pupils, and its graduating class in 1947 had 113 graduates.

For a very short time there was an academy for colored persons at the edge of the city of Eldorado. It was housed in a two-story, frame building, situated approximately two hundred yards east of the present Little Egypt Hotel. It was in operation in 1902, under the direction of a man named J. T. Alston. It was during that year that race troubles broke out in Eldorado, and from the turmoil, Alston was forced to disband his student body. The building is at this time in the process of being dismantled and wrecked.

The first school building in Carrier Mills was a two-story house located west of what is now Whitney's Cafe. It was purchased in 1877, by W. A. Lebo and Doctor James Harris, for the purpose of opening a subscription school. Prior to that date, the students of the village attended the old Salem School across the road from the house now occupied by Carl Vance. The first school in Carrier Mills was taught by Mrs. Margaret Rhodes. Anyone who desired was permitted to attend. W. A. Lebo and Doctor Harris assumed the responsibility of obtaining the teacher's salary. Mrs. John W. Dean is the only person

now living who attended this school. She is a daughter of W. A. Lebo.

In the following year, Harris, W. A. Lebo, and Wash Carrier secured a division of the Salem District and were responsible for the erection of the first public school building in Carrier Mills. Ed. Barnett was its first teacher.

Shortly after the First World War, H. Thompson donated a part of his land at the east end of town to be used for the erection of an elementary school for colored children. This school is yet being taught under the able direction of Archie Jones as principal.

The first high school classes were taught in Carrier Mills by G. T. Steinsultz in 1903, and were called the ninth grade. The first recognized two-year high school course was started under Superintendent John Stout in 1915. Stout and Mrs. Sam Cape taught all the high school classes. Courses in domestic science and manual arts were added to the curriculum in the same year. Stout served for a very short time, and was succeeded by J. W. Turner. In 1917, Carrier Mills High School became a registered three-year high school, and in 1926, it was changed to a community high school, offering a full four-year course, accredited by the University of Illinois. In that year, Max Lollar became the principal. In 1935, he was succeeded by Kenneth Phillips. Arthur Trammel was selected principal the next year, and it was during his period of service that the present building was constructed and occupied, on February 4, 1938. The gymnasium-auditorium addition was completed in 1940. From 1938 to 1943, Lollar again served as principal. He was then succeeded by Principal Hayes, who resigned in order to serve the country in the United States Navy. In 1944, Phillips again became principal, and still is serving in that capacity.

The last enrollment in the Carrier Mills Community High School numbered one hundred eighty-five, with a graduating class of thirty-five. Quite a number of the students come from Stonefort to attend, inasmuch as Stonefort has no high school, and the Carrier Mills school is the nearest their homes.

The first school in Lakeview, formerly designated as the "Pond Settlement," the pioneer colored settlement south of Carrier Mills, was held in a log building constructed for a church on ground donated by Byrd Tabor, sometime prior to the Civil War. The school was held for a few weeks each year, and was taught by anyone who claimed to be a teacher. In 1896, the old building burned, and for four years, school was held in the Methodist Church. In 1900, a new, one-room, frame school building was erected at the site of the present school, and the school district was named officially, Lakeview. In 1921, the enrollment reached ninety pupils, and another room was added. The building burned in 1930, and the present two-room, frame building was constructed.

A one-room, log structure housed the first school in Raleigh. This building probably was the one mentioned as being a "pay school" by Doctor F. F. Johnson, and in which he tells of having taught in 1856. After the county seat was moved from Raleigh to Harrisburg, school was held in the brick building that had been built for use as the courthouse in Raleigh. The next school was a frame building containing two rooms, and stood at the site of the present brick building. In 1938, the present school was built. It contains four class rooms, a gymnasium and auditorium combined, and a kitchen which enables the students to have a hot lunch at noon. The present faculty consists of three teachers, and they instruct an average of eighty students in the first eight

grades. The students attend Harrisburg, Eldorado, or Galatia High Schools to complete their twelve years of scholastic work.

Miss Bess Pemberton, at present an instructor in the Harrisburg Township High School, recalls that the first schools in Galatia were frame ones. There was a separate school for the primary grades until 1886, when both schools were combined in the same building. Two years of high school work were offered in 1896, under the principalship of R. S. Martin, who taught in Galatia a short time before he went to Eldorado to teach. In 1929, the Galatia High School was changed from a three-year to a four-year high school. It was a local district school at this time and continued under this administration until 1941, when a community high school district was formed. T. E. Groninger, R. S. Martin, Arthur Hargraves, Frank Layman, W. A. Gott, W. T. Smart, and Miss Bess Pemberton were some of the teachers in the early schools of Galatia.

The first five named taught in a Select or Normal School, which was operated each summer for five or six years, and in 1898, had an enrollment of eighty-five. This was a tuition school and was taught for the benefit of those who wanted additional scholastic work advanced above the regular required courses.



PHOTO COURTESY T. LEO DODD

Laying of the Cornerstone Eldorado Township High School.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Main Entrance Eldorado Township High School.

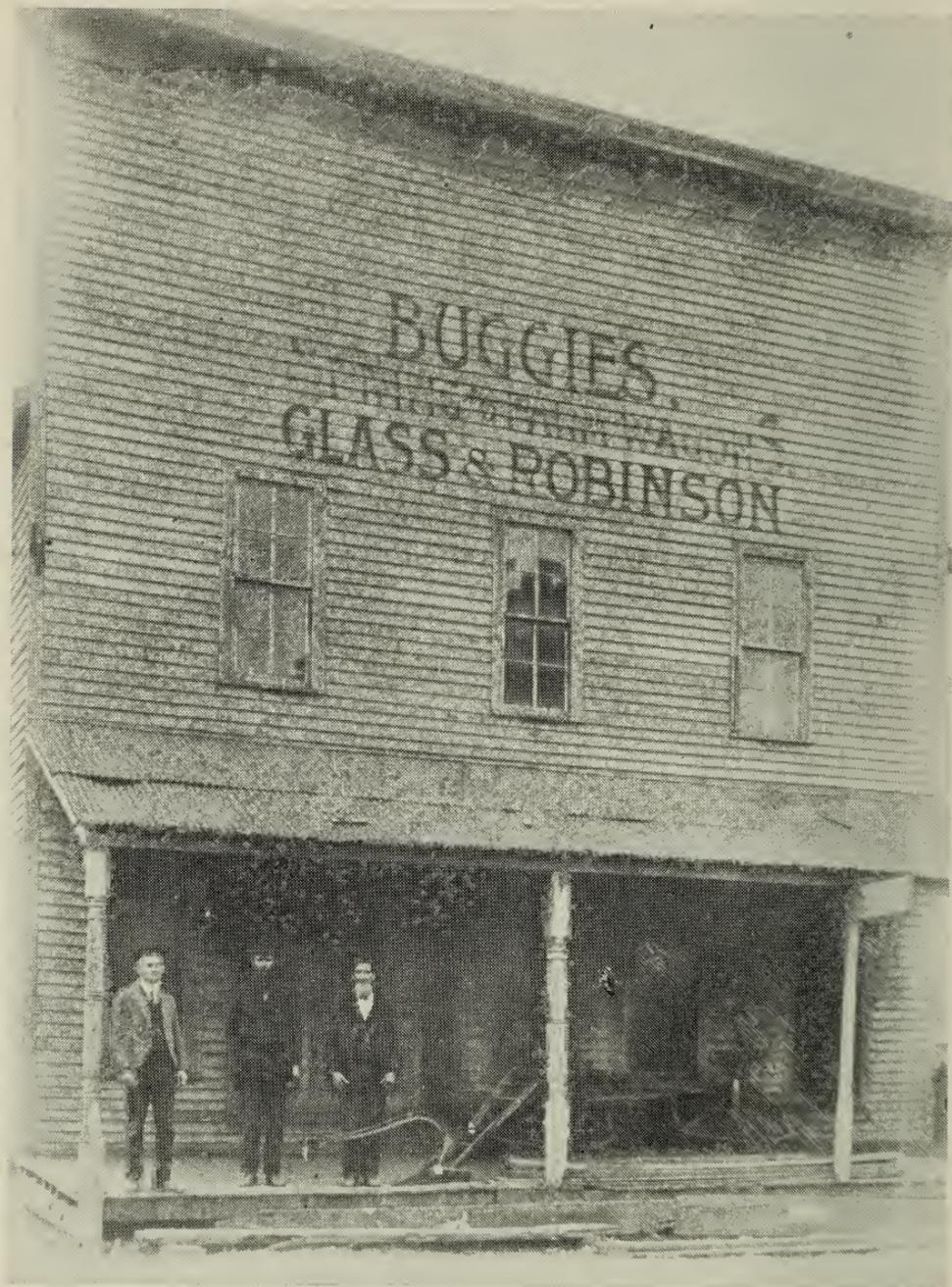


PHOTO COURTESY MAUD AND WILL JOHNSON.

Early Buggy and Wagon Shop in Harrisburg.

VIII.

Early Business and Industry

By Frances Batchelder

THE development of commerce on the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers started a stream of immigration toward Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri following the close of the Revolutionary War. The next step in this development was the utilization of the Kaskaskia, Saline, Big Muddy, and other Southern Illinois rivers and streams for the economic necessities of the pioneers. Although all of the business and industry in the early days was not localized on the streams, a great part of it found these locations the most profitable and convenient.

Most of the business and industry of the area was based upon and brought about by the first and most important of all of them during the era—the salt springs. Undoubtedly the Gallatin Salines were the prime attractions for the animals of the area before settlement began. The next users of the salines were the Piankashaw and Shawnee Indians, and the Shawnee yet were using them when the settlers began their initial westward advance.

When the Shawneetown land district was created in 1812, much land near the salines was set aside by the government as a “reservation,” and intended to insure sufficient fuel from the forests to guarantee the continued and successful operation of the salines. Wood was the only fuel used at the time, and as operations of the salt springs continued, the well operators were forced to go farther and farther back in the forests to secure plentiful supplies. Wood was also used in making wooden pipe lines to run the salt water to the furnaces, as well as for barrels and other articles around the operations.

The operation of the salines was a large and substantial industry and furnished employment to many

people. It was the hub of the group of settlements in the area, and figured materially in all the businesses and industries that followed.

The second industry to develop was that of grist-mill operations. The first grist-mill in Saline County was established by Zadok Aydelott, a Frenchman, at Somerset, in 1818. He imported the burrs he used and his mill was operated by horse power. The capacity of the mill was two bushels of shelled corn an hour.

Other early mills were established in Raleigh, Galatia, Eldorado, and other parts of the county. A good many of the mills were started near the streams in order to utilize water as power, but when not established on a stream, animal power was used. The earliest mills ground corn only as wheat was not introduced into the county until after 1840. After the growing of wheat started by the farmers, both corn and wheat were ground by the mills, but grinding corn into meal was more important for many years.

Many of the settlers used early power sawmills to furnish power for their grist-mills. One of these was Wilson Gaskins. Moses P. McGehee and Doctor Harvey R. Pearce were the owners of another sawmill turned into a grist-mill. Henry Webber and his son, Andrew J., did likewise.

One of the early water power mills was established by Sykes Garris, about 1830, on the banks of the Saline River in the southwest part of the county some distance from Stonefort. Garris' mill prospered until about 1840, when a power mill was started in the neighborhood. The power mill operator was suffering a competitive disadvantage because of the lower cost of water power when he chanced to discover that Garris was using an under-weight measure. He immediately instituted a suit to penalize Garris, which after many years of expensive

litigation resulted in a defeat for Garris. After the verdict against him, Garris said, "My day in the sun is over." The steam power mill continued operations until the time of the Civil War.

Another early water power mill was started and operated by Benjamin White on the Saline River southeast of Harrisburg at Whitesville, a small settlement started by White. This mill was operated during the middle of the century and around it grew a very sizeable little community.

There was a grist-mill in operation at Raleigh when the county was formed in 1847. In 1849, Stephen Mitchell established a water power mill on the Saline River at Mitchellsville. During the period shortly after 1850, Moses P. McGehee and Doctor Harvey R. Pearce, who had been operating a sawmill near Galatia, added a grist-mill run by steam power under the name of Pioneer Flouring Mill. The machinery for this mill had to be hauled overland from St. Louis, and its purchase and delivery caused a great deal of excitement in the new settlement of Harrisburg. In 1855, and probably the same year as the McGehee and Pearce mill, Henry Webber and his son started their steam power grist-mill in Galatia under the name of the Galatia Roller Mills, which by 1898, had a capacity of one hundred fifty barrels per day. Although each of these mills has been credited with being the first power mill in the county, the fact is that the power mill in Stonefort near the Garris mill probably was the first power mill, and the Galatia mills came afterward.

In 1868, Doctor J. W. Mitchell built a new combination saw, lumber, planing and flour mill on the site of the present Woolcott Milling Co., in Harrisburg. Mitchell first had a sawmill at this site, but had added a grist-mill in 1861. The building erected in 1868 to house all his

mill activities was a large one, and the flour mill part was the largest in the county at the time.

Major George Mitchell, nephew of Doctor Mitchell, was business manager of the mill. There was a cooper shop across the railroad track where barrels in which to place the flour were made. French burrs first were used to grind the grain. Later, steel rollers were installed. In 1892, J. H. Woolcott came to Harrisburg to visit a friend, and Doctor Mitchell prevailed upon him to take the position as miller. The following year, Woolcott took over the mill, and the principal ownership and operation of the mill has remained in the Woolcott family ever since that date. In 1897, J. C. Wilson, who had moved to Harrisburg from Pennsylvania, and who lived on the farm at the corner of the present Harrisburg city cemetery, purchased an interest in the mill, and remained in the business until his death.

At present, Harry Woolcott, Sr., Harry Woolcott, Jr., John Woolcott, and Carl Woolcott, sons and grandsons of J. H. Woolcott, own and operate the flour mill.

The mill, in 1897, had a capacity of six hundred barrels daily. Its storage facilities in Harrisburg accommodated sixty-five thousand bushels of grain, and they had four thirty-thousand bushel tanks at Eldorado. At that time, the company also operated a corn meal mill at Stonefort, and maintained sales and store-rooms both at Carrier Mills and Stonefort. The milling business is yet operated by the Woolcotts, and has grown to great proportions. It is the oldest business, continuously operating, in Harrisburg.

In 1865, Motsinger & Son operated a steam grist and sawmill at Stonefort, and advertised in the *Harrisburg Chronicle* that they "manufactured superior flour, corn meal, and lumber." Durham & Simmons operated a grist-mill in Galatia in 1872 that milled both meal and flour.

McGehee and Pearce moved their Pioneer Flouring Mill to Harrisburg in 1873 ,and later sold it to E. F. Dwyer and T. C. Dwyer, who operated it under the name of Dwyer Bros. The November 29, 1879, issue of the *Chronicle* carried their advertisement that they "wanted the farmers of Saline County and adjacent counties to know that they give their entire attention to custom work, and exchange the best quality of flour and meal in this market for wheat and corn . . . kept a supply of shipstuff and bran, etc. . . . for feed always on hand . . . and paid cash for wheat and corn." This mill was located on East Walnut Street on the lot now owned and occupied by Richard C. Davenport as a residence.

The Dwyers later sold this mill to Joseph G. Porter who operated it under the firm name of J. G. Porter & Sons. In 1888, they advertised in the *Chronicle* with a display ad lead of "Bread For The Hungry," and stated that "they would respectfully inform the people of Harrisburg and surrounding country that they had replaced their old machinery with new and enlarged their mill for better accomodation of their customers." The Porter mill cost eighteen thousand dollars and had a capacity of eighty barrels daily.

Porter also had a sawmill at this location, and, a few years later, was interested in establishing the first electric light plant which was housed in a part of the mill property here.

J. L. Ridgeway operated a roller mill in Stonefort in 1887, and the following year the *Saline County Sentinel* complained that "the citizens of Carrier Mills and vicinity are wanting a flouring mill. We are of the opinion that a good mill in that place would do a first class business, as the village is surrounded by the best or as good wheat growing lands as can be found in Saline or any other county in Southern Illinois."

In 1897, the same year that Wilson bought into the Woolcott Mill, W. H. Howell and J. C. Cook purchased the City Roller Mills in Harrisburg. Nine months later, Howell sold out to Cook only to repurchase the entire mill in October, 1898. Howell was much interested in flour milling and planned to adopt the "Plan sifter," a Hungarian patent recently introduced into American milling methods. Howell planned to mill flour for export.

The earliest work done in the timber by the settlers was from necessity hand work. Clearing was not done on a comprehensive scale but was done primarily for the purpose of securing means to erect cabins, and to clear small spaces for primitive farming. It was not long, however, before the value of the forest from a timber standpoint was recognized. Many small mills were established to make full use of this knowledge. From 1850 until after the turn of the century, many small movable steam mills were started to clear the land in one section and then move quickly to another. Prior to 1853, James Harris operated one of these mills on the site of Harrisburg, which at that time was called Crusoe's Island. Marion S. Whitley, later a successful lawyer, worked in one of these sawmills which was operated by his father, Silas A. Whitley. The Whitley mill worked through Saline, Hamilton, and Johnson Counties.

The abundance of rough sawed lumber at once brought out the possibilities of finishing it for more refined uses. In 1884, J. B. Ford and N. Johnson opened a carpenter repair shop where they also manufactured wagons. They turned this establishment into a planing mill a little later, and in 1886, dissolved the partnership, with Ford taking the lumber machinery and opening a lumber yard, after which Ford and L. A. McGuire,

a dealer in pine lumber, became partners for a period of three years. When they dissolved this partnership, McGuire took the finished lumber as his part and opened another lumber yard, and Ford kept the machinery and continued to finish rough lumber. He operated it under the name of the Harrisburg Planing Mill.

In 1895, the mill was moved to a location at the north end of Vine Street on Logan, and, in 1906, was incorporated as the J. B. Ford Lumber Co. The firm continued in business at the same location under the same firm name until 1946 when it was acquired, and the business continued, by a new corporation, The Harrisburg Lumber Company.

In January 1886, C. A. Stuck & Son moved to Harrisburg from Danville and opened a planing mill where with machinery they turned out scroll, and other intricately finished lumber products. This mill had a capacity of fifteen thousand board feet a day.

In 1889, the firm of C. P. Burnett & Sons was organized in Eldorado, and among its many enterprises was a lumber yard dealing in lumber and all kinds of building material. Ten years later, in 1899, Hiram Piatt moved from Indiana to Saline County and settled near Carrier Mills. He opened a sawmill and cleared the lumber from several hundred acres in the neighborhood. He later added a planing mill to the sawmill and also sold brick, as well as contracted for the construction of many of the structures around and in Carrier Mills.

In 1895, when the J. B. Ford Lumber Co. was organized, Ford became associated with Robert King, a brick mason, and established a brickyard at the extreme south end of Main Street in Harrisburg. The business was later incorporated under the name of Ford Brick & Tile Co., and still continues in business at the same

location under the same name. It is the largest brick plant in this section of the State.

One of the oldest industries in the county was the old Newcomb Pottery Works owned and operated by Henry Newcomb, and his wife, Lydia, from about 1846 to 1870. It was located on the Newcomb farm in the southeast part of the county, east of Eagle Mountain, in Section 14, Township 10 South, Range 7 East, in Mountain Township. Traces of the old bake ovens still can be seen. The Newcombs had quite an extensive business at the time Saline County was formed.

The pottery was made from clay on the farm. It was mixed and worked with a foot-operated treading machine. All the kinds of pottery in demand at the time were made. Among them were two-gallon crocks and jars used for milk; mixing bowls; five-, ten-, and twenty-gallon jars; and one-, two-, and five-gallon jugs, as well as other articles of earthenware.

The Newcombs furnished pottery for the settlers for miles around. Some was hauled to Shawneetown and boated to St. Louis and New Orleans, and some even was sent back to Germany, the native land of the Newcombs. Newcomb became mentally ill in 1870, and the pottery was abandoned, although the farm remained in the ownership of his heirs until a few years ago.

The first carding mill was established in Harrisburg in 1862. D. B. Grace moved to Harrisburg from Marion and opened his mill on the northeast corner of Walnut and Mill Streets. It was a small frame building. Grace operated his carding mill for many years, and in 1872, his advertisement in the *Chronicle* was commented on by the editor thusly: "D. B. Grace informs us he is meeting with good success this spring. He has received, up to date, over an average amount of wool compared to former years. He is paying 70 cents a pound for wool."

Grace's advertisement stated that "I take this method of informing the wool growers of Saline, Pope, and Williamson Counties that I have my machinery in good order for the season's carding, and flatter myself that with my experience in the business I can give general satisfaction. My price for carding is 8 cents per pound; or one-fifth of the wool, one pound of clean grease being required to every eight pounds of wool. It is unnecessary for me to say to the people of this country that I am a wool carder. Wool growers, I have been with you ten years and you know just what I can do. Just bring your wool along."

Ed James owned a carding mill and cotton gin at Raleigh which prospered during the first decade following the formation of the county. Nelson Webber also owned a cotton gin and carding mill at Raleigh at the same time. This was in addition to Webber's tobacco barns and business.

Robert Mick, who played a great part in many enterprises in Saline County, and who moved to Harrisburg from Whitesville, was responsible for the organization of the Harrisburg Woolen Mills in Harrisburg about 1884. This mill stood at the corner of East Gaskins and South Skaggs Streets at the location of the present Chas. V. Parker Co. wholesale gasoline bulk plant. The mill manufactured blankets and other woolen cloth. It also operated a set of custom cards to card wool for those customers who desired to weave and spin at home.

In 1878, N. Johnson, later to become for a short time a partner of J. B. Ford, was operating a wagon and buggy manufacturing plant on a small scale. He operated this as a part of his blacksmith and horseshoe shop. Johnson later prospered sufficiently in this field to manufacture a wagon under his own name, and by 1898 had formed the manufacturing firm of Johnson, Spangler

& Co. Members of the firm were N. Johnson, his son Charles, F. M. Spangler, and T. E. Johnson. The firm manufactured many "Johnson" wagons and sold them generally through the area. The little factory was powered by a sixteen and one-half horsepower gasoline engine. They also manufactured plows and harrows, and did a general repair work on all farm implements. The Johnsons were natives of Saline County, and Spangler came from Ohio.

A little before this time, in 1872, R. M. Smith of Harrisburg owned and operated a small manufacturing business where he made carriages and wagons. Smith was a wheelwright and did a general repair business. His manufactured output was very small and he never reached the degree of success as did Johnson.

There were many small manufacturers in the '70's. C. L. Bond was another blacksmith who made cultivators and harrows to order but whose principal trade was blacksmithing. W. H. Edwards advertised in 1872 that he was a dealer and manufacturer of saddles, harness, and allied articles.

There were at least two good sized and one smaller tanyard in Harrisburg in the period after 1860, and until the time synthetic acids were discovered that supplanted the use of oak bark in the tanning.

In the January 18, 1860, issue of the *Chronicle*, J. M. Weir & Co. advertised their tannery and offered to pay "the highest prices for Hides, Tan Bark, Tallow, etc.," and stated that they kept "constantly on hand a good supply of leather." This tanyard was located at the corner of North Jackson and West Logan Streets in Harrisburg.

Pryor Lee Skaggs moved to Illinois from Tennessee in 1855, and first settled in Marion. He remained there but a short time and then moved to Harrisburg, where

he worked in a shoe shop until he entered the Union forces in the Civil War. After the war, he settled in Eldorado, but in 1868, returned to Harrisburg where he worked in a tanyard for three years, then leased the yard for an additional three years. Later, he bought the tanyard. In 1875, he devoted most of his time to making and selling saddles and harness, and later sold this business to his son, W. T. Skaggs. Another son, Charles P. Skaggs, was the second mayor of Harrisburg after the little town became a "city." One great-grandson, Charles P. Skaggs, operates the Skaggs Pharmacy at the present time, and another, Dr. Dick Skaggs, is now a practicing physician, both in Harrisburg.

F. E. Bauder established a tanyard in Harrisburg in 1876, and operated it for a few years. Bauder was a German, who came to Saline County from Pennsylvania. As late as 1879, Bauder advertised that he manufactured and dealt in all kinds of leather, and also bought hides, tallow, furs, and wool, at the tannery yard.

There was a tanyard in Raleigh in 1861, which was owned and operated by William Burkhart. It was located across the street from the site of the present school in Raleigh, and was situated at the side of the Nelson Webber mill.

The furniture manufacturing industry was represented in the early business life of the county. In October 1897, the Reverend W. S. Blackman established the Harrisburg Furniture and Manufacturing Co. for the manufacture of the "Sanor" Folding Bed, for which a patent had been issued a short time before. Blackman was a Baptist preacher in early days and later in life was to write his autobiography, *The Boy of Battle Ford*.

The factory building was located on West Poplar Street at the foot of the hill, at the corner of Land Street. It was in a large two-story frame building which

later was divided. One-half of the large structure remains on the site and is used as a dwelling. The other half was moved north two blocks and also at this time is used as a dwelling.

The "Sanor" folding bed was described as a "model of perfection in compactness, durability [sic], and beauty, a combination piece of furniture filling every demand of a ward-robe, dresser, writing desk, book case, and non-collapsible bed."

Prior to 1898, there was a sort of telephone system in the county having its exchange at Raleigh, and toll lines to Eldorado and Harrisburg. In that year, the Galatia Telephone Co. was organized by George Mitchell, T. E. Webber, Grant Limerick, Henry Ryan, Doctor M. L. Empson, and Charles Le Tempt. They organized a county wide service and opened exchanges at Galatia, Harrisburg, and Eldorado, which gave much better service than when the original Galatia exchange was the only one. The Cumberland Telephone Co. entered the county in the same year and, in 1902, purchased the Galatia Telephone Co. system. This gave the county its first connection with the Bell system. T. J. Mockby was the first Harrisburg manager of the Cumberland system, Miss Clyde Thompson was the first day operator, and Miss Jessie Richardson was the first night operator.

The first electric light system was established in Harrisburg in 1892, by Galeener & Knowlton, under the name of Harrisburg Electric Light Plant. Reputedly, J. C. Porter furnished most of the money to start the plant and it was housed in a part of his mill at the corner of East Walnut and North Mill Streets. Electric street lights were turned on first on June 14, 1892, while Chas. P. Skaggs was mayor. His small daughter Helen, now Mrs. Harry Woolcott, Sr., turned the switch. In 1895, John F. Meixsell secured control of the plant and moved

it to the corner of Mill and Poplar Streets where the present Pontiac Motor Co. garage stands. Meixsell spent some \$11,500 modernizing the plant, which before then used the Thompson-Houston System.

Meixsell had come to Harrisburg in 1884 as a stave buyer for the Standard Oil Company, and for many years bought and shipped more than three million staves a year. It was during this era that the forests of the county were denuded to supply the great demand for lumber. There were many little sawmills operating, and many cooper shops employed considerable numbers of men making barrels. One of the most skilled of the old time sawyers, Robert G. Anderson, is living on South McKinley Street in Harrisburg, and his brother-in-law, George M. Miley, now deceased, and who became a great trial lawyer, in his youth worked at the trade of a cooper.

Eldorado had a municipal electric light plant as early as 1896, and according to the *Chronicle* in the issue of November 27, 1896, "gave entire satisfaction."

Saline County also had an insurance company. The Queen Mutual Life Insurance Company was chartered in 1897, and reorganized in 1898. All of the interested embryo insurance executives were from Saline County save three. Marion S. Whitley was president of the company; A. K. Vickers was vice-president; Doctor J. R. Baker was supreme secretary; Wm. M. Gregg was cashier; Doctor J. V. Capel was medical examiner; John W. Shaw was supreme organizer; John L. Thompson was the attorney; and A. J. Webber, W. A. Hall, John J. Parish, and John Gilbert, Jr., constituted the board of directors.

Alonzo K. Vickers was a judge from Johnson County, and W. A. Wall was a lawyer and banker from Pulaski County. John Gilbert, Jr., was the mayor and banker

of Golconda, and the son of a prominent banker and financier of Evansville, Indiana. As the name of the company indicates, it was a mutual company and did not prosper for any great length of time.

There were many stores and business houses in the new county in the first half century of its existence. Each new town attracted settlers and their needs had to be served. Moses P. McGehee and Doctor Harvey R. Pearce not only were saw- and grist-mill operators, but in 1851, they operated a general store in Galatia. In 1854, Irvin and Kittinger ran a store in Galatia, and Massey & Company opened a store there in 1858. That same year, Henry Webber and his son, Andrew Jackson Webber, opened a general store there, and it formed the basis for many diverse enterprises for several decades.

James Baker and William Frizzell operated a general store in Harrisburg in 1858. James Feazel erected a building there in 1853 and started a grocery store. Jo Robinson and Jarvis Pearce opened a grocery store about the same time. Doctor J. W. Mitchell opened a store in Harrisburg in 1856 as the first of many business ventures. Robert Mick became associated with Mitchell in the store, as well as other of the enterprises. Mick had operated a store at Whitesville as early as 1844, and shipped produce down the Saline River to the Ohio, and thence to New Orleans. Mick and Mitchell were partners in the Harrisburg store from shortly after the beginning of the town until about 1862. They bought great amounts of tobacco and other produce. In 1860, they contracted and built the first courthouse in Harrisburg, which had recently been selected the county seat.

In 1859, Valentine Rathbone moved from Raleigh to Harrisburg, and opened a drug store. In 1863, John Pruett moved to Harrisburg from the Eagle community,



PHOTO COURTESY MAUD AND WILL JOHNSON.

Woolcott's Mill in late '90's.



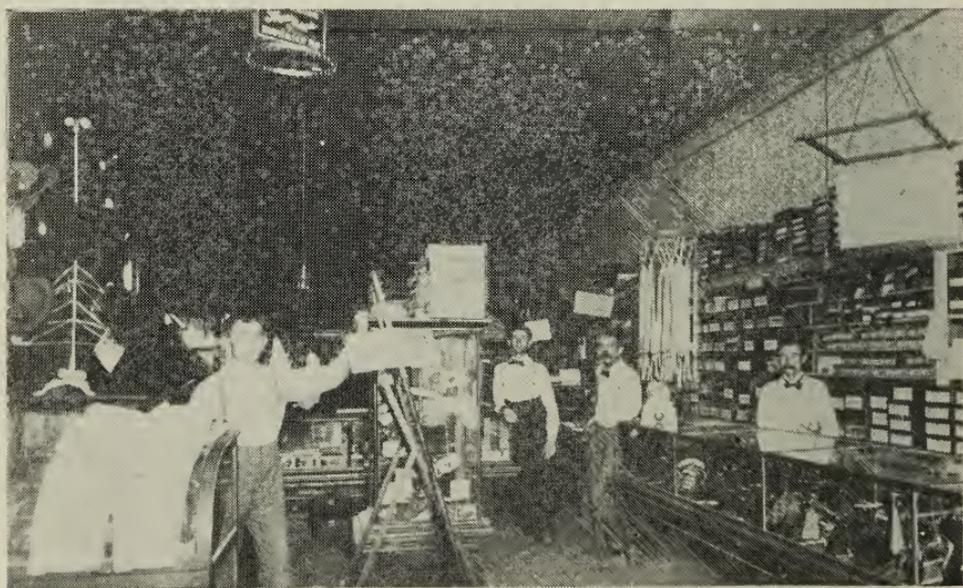
PHOTO COURTESY HARRY WOOLCOTT.

Woolcott's Mill in 1947.



PHOTO COURTESY MAUD AND WILL JOHNSON.

Interior Restaurant on West Side Square in Harrisburg
owned by Will Johnson in 1904.



COURTESY MRS. LOUIS MITSDARFFER.

Interior Gaskins & Co. Store, Corner Poplar and
Vine Streets, Harrisburg, in late 1890's.



PHOTO COURTESY MAUD AND WILL JOHNSON.

Front Restaurant on East Side Square, Harrisburg,
1890's, owned by Walter Wilson.

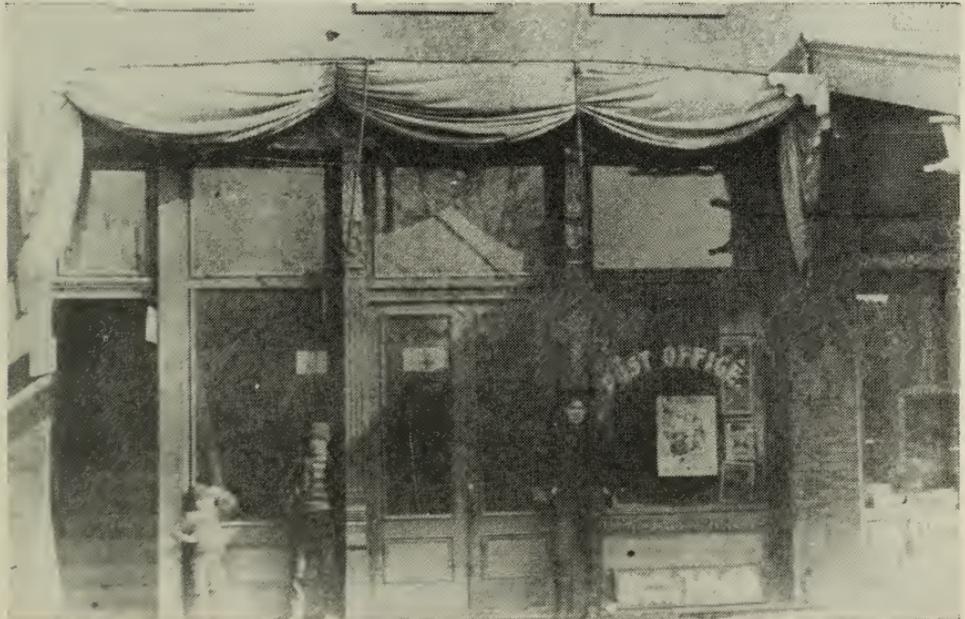


PHOTO COURTESY MAUD AND WILL JOHNSON.

Early Postoffice on Square in Harrisburg.



Burrs of Sykes Garris' Mill, now at Railway Station
in Stonefort.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Remains of Foundation of Sykes Garris' Mill, 1947.

and opened an undertaking establishment. Pruett was a carpenter and cabinetmaker by trade, and personally made the caskets and coffins used in his undertaking business. In the late 50's and early 60's, Rathbone, Baker & Bros. operated a dry goods store; A. Brown & Co. operated a grocery store; Roark & Sisk ran a general store, which later was operated by Wm. Roark alone. On November 2, 1859, Roark advertised in the *Chronicle* that "he was on hand again with his Fall and Winter stock of Fancy and Staple Dry Goods," and also "Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Groceries, Queensware, Boots, and Shoes."

John L. Wright operated a butcher shop next door to the Harrisburg postoffice, and advertised to purchase "Five Thousand opossum skins, well dressed," and that he paid "the highest market prices for Beef cattle, pork, and sheep," and that he "also sold lard, tallow, and candles."

During the same period, James Feazel stated in his advertisements that he sold "Fancy and Domestic Dry Goods, etc.," as well as "Yankee Notions." Feazel also advertised that he paid the highest prices for country produce, and that he made "no charge for showing goods."

Alex and Charles Nyberg, who before that time had a store at Stonefort, in Harrisburg, in the same era, advertised that they "kept constantly on hand a good and select variety of Liquors of all kinds," as well as "Tobacco and cigars of the choicest kinds." Alex Nyberg later started the grocery of A. Nyberg & Sons, having with him Axel, Swen, and Ray, three of his six sons. This business continued in Harrisburg for more than half a century.

In 1860, J. C. White, on the east side of the public square in Harrisburg, "held himself in readiness to do

all kinds of Tailoring on short notice. Garments made to order in good style. Cutting done on reasonable terms, and warranted to fit if properly put together."

In the same period, J. Potts was a watchmaker and jeweler. Baker & Conover operated a drug store. A. J. St. John also was a druggist, dealer in patent medicines and oils, and operated a confectionery. During a part of this time, Robert Mick was a partner with S. W. Forgy, under the firm name of Mick & Forgy, and advertised "all kinds of dry goods, notions, queensware, glassware, etc.," and advertised asking to buy country produce.

J. M. Baker & Company succeeded Rathbone, Baker & Bros., and continued in the old stand. In 1870, W. D. Russell and W. H. Pankey operated a store on Pankey's farm near Carrier Mills. Pankey, from 1866 to 1885, was an extensive buyer of tobacco, and for some years was associated with Robert Mick in buying and packing pork, and buying tobacco, live stock, and grain.

J. H. Grace, son of D. B. Grace, the carder, worked in a drug store operated by W. H. Hallock in 1879, and in 1882, worked in Doctor Rathbone's drug store. In 1885, Grace, together with W. M. Gregg, opened a drug store and advertised that they sold drugs, books, stationery, paints, oils, varnishes, perfumes, toilet articles, and the like. It was in this store that Charles V. Parker worked and became part owner in later years. Parker had come to Harrisburg from New Burnside in 1880, and by the 1920's, had become the outstanding capitalist of Southern Illinois. The Hallock having the drug store in Harrisburg also owned a drug store in Stonefort.

Another business man of the early period was Ross Seten, who came to Saline County in 1858. He first settled near Eagle Mountain and farmed and dealt in live stock. In 1873, he opened a hardware and furniture

store in Harrisburg. His son, George Seten, managed it. This firm, under the name of R. Seten & Son, continued in business for sixty years. The furniture store was divided from the hardware store in 1891, and the hardware store continued under the name of R. Seten & Son. The furniture store operated under the name of Seten Furniture Co. George Seten operated the furniture store; John L. Seten and Sigel Seten ran the hardware store. For many years another son, D. K. Seten, ran a grocery store. The hardware store is in operation yet and is now owned by Loyd Seten, a grandson of the original founder. The furniture business was incorporated in later years and passed out of the Seten ownership, although yet operated under the same name. It is now managed and principally owned by Louis N. Davenport.

The seventies and eighties brought many more stores and businesses. Otto Heineman opened a butcher shop, and in 1881, began dealing in ice. Later he became a distributor of beer and soft drinks. R. F. Stinson opened a "family" grocery store. J. S. Cooksey opened a dry goods and grocery store. In 1878, R. S. McGehee & Company operated a store selling "stoves, hardware, tinware, cutlery, etc." Phillip Wiedemann also opened a "family" grocery store. On October 4, 1878, the *Chronicle* carried this advertisement: "Turner Ware has commenced business in the house lately vacated by J. H. C. Davis. He invites everybody to give him a call, satisfied he can please in price and quality. He has had long experience in the mercantile trade."

In 1879, F. Walters was proprietor of the City Bakery and sold "all kinds of bread, cakes, pies and crackers, candies, nuts, cider, oysters, sardines, etc." At the same time, J. H. Dempsey had a "headquarters for saddles, harness, bridles, collars, whips, and everything usually

kept in a first class harness shop." Wiley C. Jones was a watchmaker and jeweler, and was located two miles southeast of Raleigh.

In 1879, Mrs. L. Starbuck advertised "millinery and fancy goods . . . the latest styles." J. G. Porter and Son sold seasoned lumber, and brick and tile could be bought from L. F. Pharo and M. J. Nash at the depot. Mitchell and Towle ran a men's store. The partners were Doctor J. W. Mitchell and Joseph Towle. Towle had moved to Harrisburg from Equality. Later, his sons, Ralph and Herman Towle, took over this business, and it is still operated by Herman Towle and his son Edwin as the Palace Clothing House. A ladies' store, The Fashion Palace, is now operated by John W. Towle, another son of Herman Towle.

The White Sewing Machine Co. had C. N. Douden as its Harrisburg agent in 1879. Sewing machines were sold in 1898 by M. E. Williford, a son of S. F. Williford, prominent attorney of that time. Mrs. S. F. Williford, together with her daughter Pearl, now Mrs. Phillip Sherman of Harrisburg, conducted the Williford Conservatory of Music, in the Skaggs Building. At that time, W. J. Estes was agent for the Kimball Piano Company, and operated three wagons carrying pianos over a considerable territory in his sales efforts. It was the custom to place a piano in any home for a free trial.

In 1880, E. Bucknell was a tailor with a shop in the Rathbone Building on the north side of the square. W. E. Wiedemann owned a store where he sold groceries, boots and shoes. He continued in business for many years. On the east side of the square, George Frank dealt in groceries, boots and shoes. J. P. Albinger was a house, sign, and ornamental painter, and Thomas I. Davenport was a carpenter and joiner contracting to build buildings in both town and country.

In 1879, Thomas C. Richardson had a blacksmith shop on the corner of Main and Church Streets, and Largent & Gaskins operated a livery stable on Locust Street, where they kept buggies and drivers available to serve the drummers who covered this territory in their sales efforts. Jo R. Pearce, who was a printer by trade, operated a general store in Harrisburg in 1893. John T. Gaskins and his brother, George T., opened a men's store and operated it at the corner of Poplar and Vine Streets for over fifty years. It was liquidated about 1940.

William H. Howell, once in the milling business, was in the dry goods business for several years prior to 1879. He was in the coal mining business from 1880 to 1905, Shaw & Weaver came from Hardin County and operated a general store for some years. Shaw later became a partner with George G. Mugge in a general store. W. T. Glass came to Harrisburg from Pope County in 1891, and entered the mercantile business with N. Johnson selling agricultural implements and wagons. In 1896, in Harrisburg, there were two flour mills, one sawmill, one woolen mill, one planing mill, a brick and tile factory, two banks, five hotels, and numerous stores and retail businesses.

The largest single industry in Saline County in early years was the tobacco industry. There were seven tobacco barns in Raleigh, two in Harrisburg, and one in Galatia. Millions of pounds of tobacco were handled through these barns and great quantities were exported to England.

One of the largest tobacco barns in Raleigh was the Nelson Webber barn, commonly called the "Nell" Webber barn. It was located across the street from the present school building. It burned in 1890. The stemming room measured fifty feet by thirty feet, and the prize or pressing room was twenty-five feet high. The largest

barn in Raleigh was the Tom Lusk barn. It was fifty by one hundred fifty feet in size and was built in 1886. This building remained standing until 1926 when it burned.

George Burnett operated a barn just east of the present Musgrave property in Raleigh. It was eighty by forty feet in size. It later was sold to William Hall by Burnett. The Pool barn was northeast of the Musgrave property and was thirty by forty feet. It was built in 1855, and was used for pressing but not stemming. R. H. Archenberger owned a barn just east of Burnett's barn. It never was completed but was used both for pressing and stemming. William Hall also owned a barn south of Burnett's, which is east of the present home of J. Ward Barnes. Hall obtained this barn from Attorney William H. Parish in a trade, exchanging a farm near Greenhill for the barn and a store. The Lusk and Burnett barns in Raleigh subsequently came into the ownership of White, Donnelly & Co.

The Galatia firm of H. Webber & Son was one of the largest buyers of tobacco in the area. A. J. Webber continued the business after the decease of his father. The firm employed upwards of fifty employees during the handling season, and annually exported a million pounds of tobacco to Liverpool for many years.

Harrisburg was the location of the county's only cigar factory. John Mullankamp started it, and sold it to Marshall Miller in 1898. He ran the factory in a part of the building used by his uncle, W. S. Blackman, for the folding bed factory. He sold the factory to his brother, Elmer M. Miller, in 1900. Five cent cigars were made under the brand names of "Elcapitan," "Trix Flyer," and "Holy Terror." Elmer M. Miller continued the factory until 1918, when the economy of operation inci-

dent to the machine age drove his handmade cigars from a highly competitive market.

Much of the early tobacco was sold in Harrisburg and Mitchell, Robert Mick, and many others dealt extensively in the commerce. One of the two barns in Harrisburg was at the corner of East Poplar and Mill Streets, and the other was on the corner of Elm and Main Streets.

One of the first, if not the first, stores started in Raleigh was owned by Alfred Aldrich, who moved to the new county from Posey County, Indiana. Aldrich died in 1848. William St. C. Clark and James Parker together with Thomas Frizzell, each opened a store in Raleigh in 1848. William G. Burnett and John Irvin secured license in that year to dispense liquor in Raleigh. In 1854, William Baldwin and Valentine Benson were each granted a license to keep a grocery store where liquor was sold.

The first ten years of Raleigh's existence saw several other businesses make their beginning. Included among them were Stinson & Parish, McMickle & Burnett, Stinson & Spiller, and Thomas B. Vaughn. H. P. Burnett started a store in later years, as did J. D. Fair and A. S. Clark. Hiram Burnett was a blacksmith at the time and also held the office of circuit clerk. His son, Hiram A. Burnett, operated a store in Raleigh in 1890. In 1872, George E. Burnett was a dealer in Raleigh in dry goods, groceries, and hardware, and in the same year T. F. Smith & Co. manufactured wagons and carriages as well as dealt in stoves and tinware.

In 1872, Saline County's one and only nursery was in operation. It was owned by Wright & Weir. The firm advertised that persons desiring to leave orders should take them to the *Chronicle* office.

Stonefort was a bustling little community in the early days. Alex and Charles Nyberg opened a general merchandise store there in 1859. Later, Alex was to move

to Harrisburg, and with his sons, found A. Nyberg & Sons store. Thomas Smith opened a store in Stonefort in 1860, and in 1865, advertised that he was a dealer in dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, hardware, and queenware. In 1872, A. Vickers owned a store there that was managed by T. A. Tolbert. Others operating stores in Stonefort in the early days were Smith & Son, Harper & Norman, and W. H. Ridgeway. In the late 1880's, J. W. Rose owned a store at Stonefort. Rose also operated a store at Independence and one in Johnson County. Hancock & Henderson, Grace & Gregg, M. A. Kelley, Pulley Bros., and a man named Hammack also operated stores there. W. A. Coe, W. G. Osburn, as well as Kelly & Hallock, operated drug stores. There was a St. John Meat Market, and J. H. Blackman ran a furniture store. The father of George H. Kelley opened a store in 1880, and the son built it into the largest establishment in Stonefort.

One of the first mercantile establishments in the county was at Somerset. A general store was operated there before 1850, and was continued by various owners until the 1930's. The last owners were Cummins and Mattingly. Their two-story frame building is still standing, and is all that remains to mark the little community of Somerset.

The first businesses in Eldorado were started just before and in the Civil War period. John H. Scott, a farmer, opened a general store in Eldorado after his return from war service. Scott also, with four others, organized a company and drilled the first oil well in the county. From 1896 to 1906, Scott engaged in the business of selling buggies and light vehicles.

The first general stores in Eldorado were owned by Nathaniel Bramlett and N. Webber. Each of these stores was started before the Civil War. In 1872, Choisser Bros.

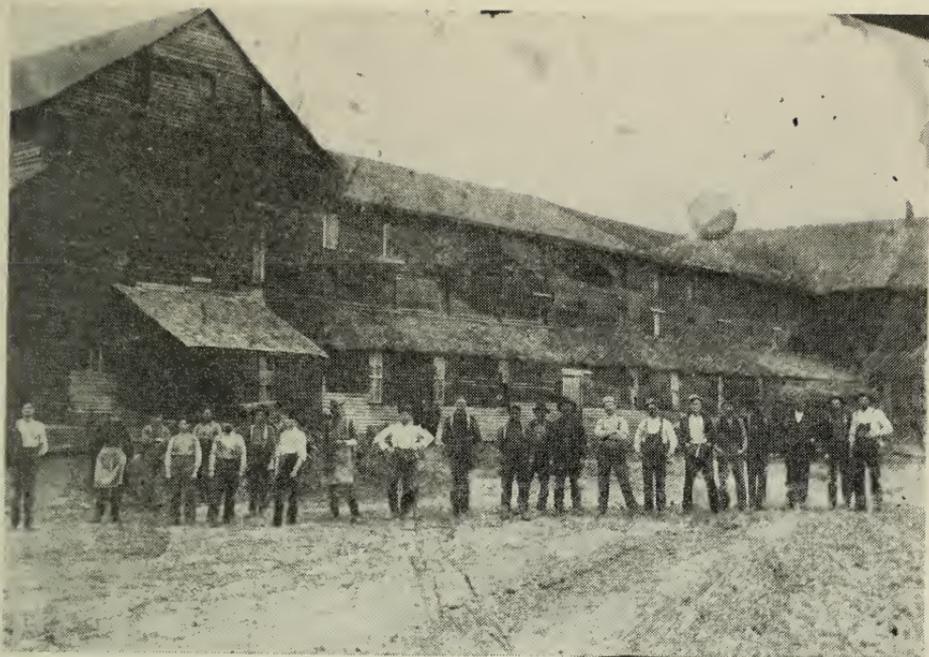


PHOTO COURTESY BERNICE RELYEA.

H. Webber & Son Tobacco Barn at Galatia.



PHOTO COURTESY D. F. HALL.

Tobacco Stemming Crew of George Burnett
Tobacco Barn at Raleigh



PHOTO COURTESY MRS. C. L. BAKER.

Madison Hotel, Harrisburg, which stood at site
of present postoffice, at corner Main
and Church Streets.

operated a livery stable and also ran a hack daily to Benton and return. Womack Bros. sold boots and shoes, hats, caps, family groceries, and a general line usually sold in such stores. The Eldorado Grange established a store in 1879, where was sold dry goods, notions, hats, caps, boots and shoes, trace lines, hardware, check lines, and farm implements.

A. Ledvina was a carpenter, joiner, undertaker, and manufacturer and dealer of furniture. In 1887, Eldorado boasted two drug stores, four dry goods stores, five groceries, one clothing store, one hardware store, one stove and tinware shop, one harness shop, one jeweler, one foundry and machine shop, two sawmills, two millinery stores, two livery stables, three hotels, one lumber yard, and one spoke factory.

In 1865, Doctor John F. Latham entered into a partnership with his brother, S. C. Latham, in the drug business under the firm name of Latham Bros., and advertised "we will respectfully inform the citizens of Eldorado and vicinity that we will keep constantly on hand a full stock of articles in the line of business which we will sell as cheap as any other druggist in southern Illinois." Cummins & Vaughn opened a "family" grocery store there in 1872.

The most extensive business interests in Eldorado were those of the Burnetts. C. P. Burnett began a mercantile firm in 1871, with his brother-in-law under the name of Burnett & Musgrave. This firm continued until 1885, when Burnett opened his own general store. In 1889, he organized the firm of C. P. Burnett & Sons, taking in with him his sons, C. H., L. E., R. E., and C. P. In 1903, after the death of the elder Burnett, the business was incorporated and continued by the sons. The general merchandise store was divided into separate stores selling clothing, hardware, and groceries. It was in this

business that the elder Burnett started the first bank. It was started by Burnett accepting sums of money from his customers merely for safe keeping for which he paid no interest. Out of this practice evolved a private bank which later was granted a charter as a state bank.

Burnett owned large holdings in land and was interested in many other enterprises in and around Eldorado.

As could be expected, hotels were an early necessity. Doctor H. R. Pearce opened the first one in Harrisburg on the corner of Main and Poplar Streets, under the name of The Egyptian House. It was started about 1860. In 1874, the Garrison House was operated by E. B. Ingram. Another early one was the Union House, operated by S. W. Hughes. Hughes' hotel was located near the present site of the railroad depot.

Mrs. Nancy Tucker ran a hotel in Bolton. In 1870, A. D. Durham and J. Q. Norman started the Excelsior Hotel in Harrisburg. Later they changed the location and renamed it Durham's Repose. In 1879, G. W. Brown operated the Brown House, and advertised that "having recently taken charge of this house and had it newly furnished, I am prepared to accommodate the public."

Galatia had the Eureka House owned by R. M. Smith. Mrs. Wm. E. Burchett owned and operated the Independence House at Independence. A news item stated that "Mrs. Burchett (late Mrs. Golden of this county), has opened at her residence at Independence, for the accommodations of the traveling." This was on November 29, 1879. Eldorado possessed the East Side Hotel owned by T. Barnett; the Central House owned by John D. Taylor; and the Grand Hotel under the management of I. D. Hook.

At the present time Harrisburg has the Horning, the Saline, the Commercial, the Womack, and the Hodge;

and Eldorado has the Little Egypt, the Murray, and the Vaught.

The first newspaper in the county was the *Raleigh Egyptian*, published by Charles Burnett in 1857. It was issued but for a few weeks before being abandoned.

The second newspaper in the county was the *Raleigh Flag* established by Charles Burnett in 1857. The building in which it was housed burned that same year and only a few issues were ever printed. Mrs. L. E. Coffee, daughter of John F. Conover, first editor of the *Chronicle*, is the owner of the only copy of the *Flag* known to be in existence.

An early newspaper in Eldorado was the *Eldorado Reporter* published in 1896 by M. B. Friend & Son. The first newspaper in Eldorado was the *Advocate*, which was moved to Equality in 1885. The first newspaper in Harrisburg was the *Chronicle* which began publication in 1859 owned by John F. Conover and S. W. Forgy. Forgy sold his interest in the paper to Major F. M. Pickett in 1868, but in 1869 Pickett withdrew and established the *Saline County Register*. This paper, then a weekly, is the parent to the present *Harrisburg Daily Register*. In 1873, the two plants were consolidated but the papers issued separately.

The first paper in Stonefort was the *Journal*, started in 1874, with A. J. Alden as editor. About this time, the *Weekly Herald* was issued in Harrisburg for a few issues by James Yeargin. In 1880, the *Saline County Democrat* was edited by J. N. Hayes, and in 1885, W. K. Burnett began the *Harrisburg Mercury*. The *Harrisburg Sentinel* was started prior to 1880, and in that year Colonel Clinton Otey purchased both the *Chronicle* and the *Sentinel*, and issued the *Chronicle-Sentinel* for a period of three years. Galatia had its paper in the *Galatia Jour-*

nal, started in 1896, with H. Webb Pemberton as editor. In 1897, P. S. Parish started the *Harrisburg Democrat*.

At present in the county are published the *Harrisburg Daily Register*, the *Eldorado Daily Journal*, both dailies, and *The Eldorado News*, the *Eldorado Examiner*, and the *Carrier Mills News*, the latter, weeklies.

The *Harrisburg Daily Register* is published by The Register Publishing Co. of which Mrs. Daisy M. Seright is President, J. O. Wells, Vice President and Curtis G. Small, Secretary-Treasurer and Managing Editor. The *Eldorado Daily Journal* was started in 1911, and is published by L. O. Trigg. Kenneth R. Trigg is the editor. In 1918 the *Journal* purchased the weekly paper, *The Saline County Republican*, published in Eldorado. E. T. Wills was the editor at the time. The *Eldorado Examiner* and the *Carrier Mills News* are published by P. J. Valter of Shawneetown. The *Eldorado News* is published by William Drobeck. The *Democratic Headlight*, was published about 1890-93, in Harrisburg by the Ross Brothers.

The theatre business was first represented in the county when, in 1865, Valentine Rathbone built an opera house on the north side of the square in Harrisburg. The building was remodeled in 1893, and the opera house remained in existence until about 1916. The first moving picture show in the county was started in Harrisburg in 1906, when three Big Four brakemen, named Eaton, Hurst, and Landrigan, opened the Star Theatre in the building just north of the corner of Vine and Locust Streets in Harrisburg. A few months after the opening of the Star, James Cook, Tom Pearce, and Roscoe Clark opened the Iola on the south side of the square. The third opened was the Arc. In 1907, Dayton Ford and J. K. Rollins purchased the Star, and sold it to W. F. Westfall of Grayville, who in the meantime had opened

a movie in a tent on the second lot on Locust Street west of the Vine Street corner. The tent movie was named the Odeon.

In 1908, Oscar L. Turner purchased both the Odeon and the Star from Westfall. For a time, Joe Hewitt, and a man named Hurst, were associated with him, but Turner soon took over the entire business and his brother, W. T. Turner, became associated with him. The two shows were combined and moved to the site of the present Orpheum Theatre, where then was standing the old Presbyterian Church building. This was remodeled into a movie theatre.

In 1910, S. M. Farrar of Ava, moved to Eldorado, and took over a movie started there. Turner and Farrar later consolidated their shows, and at the present time are the principal owners of a chain of theatres in Harrisburg, Eldorado, Vienna, Rosiclare, Chester, Sparta, Albion, Fairfield, and Carrier Mills. Their sons, Charles O. Farrar and O. L. Turner, Jr., have assumed the active management of the theatre interests.

One of the first banks in the county was the bank of C. P. Burnett & Sons mentioned herein, and which, in 1921, was changed to a State bank from a private bank. In 1876, Robert Mick organized the Saline County Bank in Harrisburg, which was changed to the First National Bank in 1889. The Bank of Harrisburg was started about this time, and, in 1898, was changed to the City National Bank. This bank was taken over in 1938, and liquidated, by the Harrisburg National Bank. In 1905, the Harrisburg State Savings Bank, and the Saline Trust & Savings Bank, were organized. These two merged on February 22, 1922, under the name of First Trust & Savings Bank, and on July 1, 1937, the name was changed to Harrisburg National Bank, when it was changed from a State to a National bank.

In 1906, the First State Bank of Eldorado was organized by John Davenport, the coal operator, and P. H. Galeener, and has been in business continuously since that time. In 1894, the Saline County Bank was organized at Carrier Mills, and in 1901 was moved to Stonefort. In 1921, it was changed to a State bank under the name of Saline County State Bank, and is yet operated at the same location as when originally moved to Stonefort. J. W. Rose, a merchant of Stonefort in the 80's, operated a private bank for some years. Doctor H. L. Burnett and Hiram Musgrave operated a private bank in Raleigh until 1921, when it was made a State bank under the name of Raleigh State Bank. It was sold to First Trust & Savings Bank of Harrisburg in 1922 and liquidated in 1933.

The Webber interests founded the Bank of Galatia, and later, the owners organized the Bank of Harco. The First State Bank of Galatia was organized in the 1900's. At Carrier Mills, the Citizens Savings Bank and the First National Bank were organized following the removal of their first bank to Stonefort. The First National Bank of Eldorado was organized and existed until the late 1920's. The Galatia, Harco, and Carrier Mills banks all have been liquidated and are no longer in business.

There was no packing of meat products in the county before 1927 other than the salting and packing of pork by Robert Mick, J. W. Mitchell, and others of the first business men. However, in 1927, the Williams Packing Plant was started at Raleigh, and has continued in business under that name, and the present name of the Raleigh Packing Co. The Smith Packing Co. started business in Harrisburg in 1930, and is now located at the extreme south end of Granger Street. It is housed in a large brick structure and equipped in the latest and most modern manner. It has a present capacity of three

hundred hogs and forty cattle daily, and furnishes employment to a considerable number of men of the community.

Harrisburg now has a modern, up-to-date radio broadcasting station. Radio Station WEBQ was started in the early 1920's by Joseph R. Tate, an amateur. By 1930, Tate secured a broadcasting license and was on the air a good part of the day with programs. The station was later sold to Harrisburg Broadcasting Co. and operates on a frequency of 1240 kilocycles. It has a power of 250 watts. The manager at the present time is Inglis M. Taylor, and Tate is still with the station as technician.

IX.

Coal Mines in Saline County

By Mary Norman Lindsay

WHEN the first settlers came to the part of Illinois that is now Saline County, they found it covered with forests. Wood was the common fuel used by everyone for all purposes. There was no thought of the use of coal although many hillsides showed the black outcroppings that gave unmistakable evidence of the presence of bituminous coal in considerable quantities.

The earliest mining in Southern Illinois, and in Saline County, consisted in "gophering" the outcroppings, and for many years, the coal was used only by blacksmiths, and to a limited extent, for domestic purposes. The methods were crude and primitive. The mines were small and, in the main, operated and owned individually by the farmer who owned the land, or by some neighbor to whom it had been leased. It was not until after 1850 that the beginning of industrial growth in the State caused more attention to be paid to the coal mines in the south part. Even then, it was another forty years before real, substantial development of the mines in Saline County gained any great momentum.

There is no State record of coal in Saline County before 1880, but it is definitely known that there were at least two, and perhaps many more, small hillside, slope mines in the county eighteen or twenty years before that time.

The first coal mine opened in the county was one mile south of Harrisburg. It was opened by John Riben Norman who owned the farm upon which the mine was located. The farm, and the mine, were located at the north end of the present community of Pankeyville.

From recollections of members of the Norman family, it appears this drift mine was opened as early as 1856.

In determining the earliest date of the operation of the Norman mine, two instruments of record disclose much light. The first of these instruments is the last will of Norman. It was executed on December 28, 1874, and probated on January 22, 1884. In his will, Norman bequeathed to his sons, "mostly coal land which has at this time a coal mine opened on it. It is my will that each of my sons above mentioned have all the mining rights to said lands with the privilege of erecting any buildings for the purpose of mining for the coal or other minerals, and that all the net proceeds of said mining right be equally divided. . . ." From the wording of the will, it is obvious that Norman had opened his mine prior to the year 1874.

The second instrument is a mining lease dated March 22, 1877, and acknowledged April 24, 1877, before W. A. McHaney, a justice of the peace, from J. R. Norman to John Davenport and Thomas S. Williams. The lease was for five years and gave the lessors the right to "dig, excavate, and remove the coal under the following tract of land laying and being in Saline County, Illinois, to-wit: SE-SW Section 22, and NE-NW Section 27, Township 9, Range 6." The lease also included the granting of a plot "as a garden spot and to rent a house there-soever so that the party of the second part can reside thereon for and clear of rent, the party of second part putting up said house and improvements free and clear of expense to J. R. Norman; that the party of the second part is to have all necessary timber to put up said building, the same off the land aforesaid."

The lease discloses that, at the time, the land was covered with timber in sufficient quantities to furnish lumber to build a house. It is known that John Davenport either worked as an employee at the Norman mine, or had it leased on an oral, or an unrecorded written,

lease some three years prior to the date of the recorded lease.

The history of coal mining in Saline County has no more mention of Williams, but Davenport was to take the lead in opening and developing the majority of the mines in the county during the next thirty years. John Riben Norman had emigrated to Saline County from North Carolina in 1800, and died a few years after his lease to Davenport and Williams. Forty years later, his grandson, O. D. Norman, was to aid in opening one of the largest shaft mines in the county, and the largest one of the three shaft mines yet operating in the county at this time.

The second mine in the county was opened shortly after the Norman mine. It was opened by David Ingram on his farm, two miles east of the Norman farm. It was also a slope mine, driven into the side of a hill, and like the Norman mine, was a crude and primitive affair. Although there is a paucity of records relating any facts about the initial opening of the Norman and Ingram mines, accounts related by contemporaries and handed down to the present generation, indicate that both mines were opened quite a few years before the construction of the Cairo and Vincennes Railroad through the county. This railroad was not completed until 1872, and undoubtedly, both mines were operating in the sixties.

The first railroad shipping mine was opened in 1873, by General Green Berry Raum, of Harrisburg, and Captain Vial, of Vienna. It also was a slope mine, and was sunk near the Cairo and Vincennes Railroad some three miles southwest of Harrisburg, and near the present community of Ledford. The old mine opening is visible, a hundred yards or so south of State Highway No. 45 and the railroad tracks, where they intersect the gravel road known as the Liberty crossing. The mine was

known as a shipping mine because it was on the railroad, and the product could be loaded in railway cars and shipped.

This mine recalls many intimate recollections with Harrisburg. At least two men yet living in Harrisburg—E. E. Ledford and D. E. Shepard—worked at the mine. Captain Vial's daughter married Doctor Louis N. Parish, a son of William H. Parish, the county's first lawyer. Doctor Parish practiced his profession in Harrisburg for more than half a century. General Raum had been president of the village board of Harrisburg, a general in the Civil War, and a member of Congress for this district, and was president of the Cairo and Vincennes Railroad at the time he and Vial opened the mine.

In 1880, W. H. Howell, who had moved to Harrisburg from Marion, together with John Davenport, William Alsop, and E. O. Roberts, organized the Clifton Coal Co. They opened a slope mine called the Clifton Slope across the railroad to the northwest a distance of a half mile from the Ledford Slope of Raum and Vial. The company prospered and two years later, Howell bought the interests of Davenport and Alsop. A year or so later, Howell purchased the interest of Roberts, and became the sole owner of the mine. Howell, later, for a brief time, brought a man named Curry into the company, but later repurchased his interest. Howell then operated the mine alone until 1892, when he leased it to John Davenport and William White for a period of five years.

About the year 1883, William Alsop, who had been one of the organizers of the Clifton Coal Co., together with John Mason and Frank Rice, opened the Newcastle mine, three miles south of Carrier Mills, toward Stonefort. The mine locally was called "Craphat." It was between sixty and sixty-five feet deep and was sunk

to what is called now the No. 2 vein of coal. It was operated continuously until 1907.

About the same time, Davenport, William White, and John Barter sunk a mine at the present site of the Ford Brick & Tile Co. plant at the extreme south limits of the present City of Harrisburg. This mine was called the "Blackhawk" mine. It was a shaft mine near the railroad, and was sunk to the No. 7 vein of coal, just thirty feet below the surface.

It was here that the first of many tragedies in the coal mines of the county occurred. Immediately after the completion of the sinking of the shaft, and before actual hoisting of coal had begun, Barter was struck in the head by a windlass and killed while in the act of performing a duty which he often had seen his partner, Davenport, do quite simply and safely. Barter was the father of Harry Barter, now in the drug store with Robert Keltner, in the firm of Barter & Keltner, Harrisburg. After the death of Barter, Alsop joined the company, and was followed a little later by Frank Rice. After a number of years of operation, the Blackhawk mine burned and was abandoned.

After the Blackhawk burned, Davenport and White leased the old Clifton Slope from Howell. For a time, Davenport, Alsop, Rice, and White, either together or individually, operated the Old Clifton, Newcastle, and Blackhawk mines. Newcastle, or "Craphat," was operated until about 1906 or 1907, when it was abandoned.

In 1897, Howell, together with F. M. Parish, and Howell's son-in-law, J. M. Pruett, formed a new Clifton Coal Co., and incorporated it. In 1901, they opened a new Clifton mine about a quarter of a mile from Old Clifton. They operated this mine until 1905, when they sold it to O'Gara Coal Co., and Howell retired from the coal mining field.

Davenport, the pioneer coal operator, had operated more or less as an independent prior to 1890. In that year, he organized a corporation under the name of Davenport & Company, having as other owners both Alsop and White. The corporation was capitalized at \$25,000.00, and with the larger capital available, began wider and more extensive operations in the Saline County coal development.

Immediately prior to this time, a man named McDonald, from Equality, had begun sinking a shaft mine near Ledford. He intended to sink the shaft to one of the deeper veins of coal, and reached a depth of approximately sixty feet. McDonald stoutly maintained that the richer veins of coal would be found to be the deeper ones. However, he ran out of money before he reached the deeper vein. His efforts to interest other capital were fruitless, and the mine was abandoned for a period of several years.

Shortly after the formation of the Davenport company, it took over the McDonald operation, and purchased an additional two hundred eighty acres of coal rights from a man named Roberts, who had leased the rights from Doctor J. W. Mitchell. Several test holes were driven, and the men located a most profitable vein at a depth of one hundred fifty feet. This was the so-called No. 5 vein, and was found to be from four to seven feet in thickness. This, perhaps, was the first really profitable mine in the county, and was worked for many years until sold to the O'Gara company in 1905. It was named O'Gara mine No. 14 at that time. The mine was three miles from Harrisburg, on the railroad toward Ledford. At its peak production, it employed three hundred fifty miners, and had a capacity of some nine hundred tons of coal a day.

In 1903, a new mining company named Harrisburg

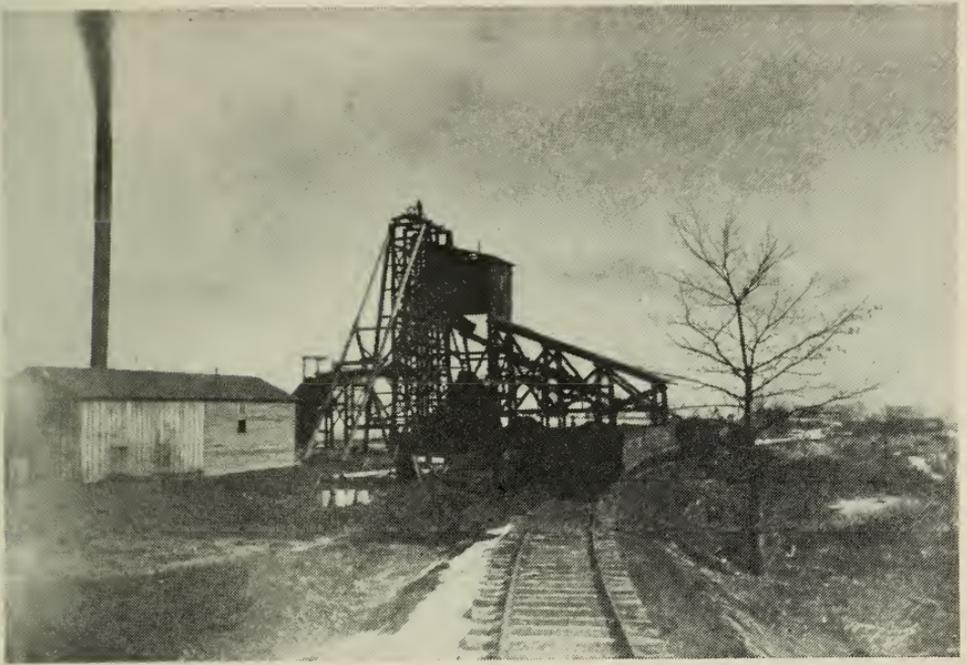
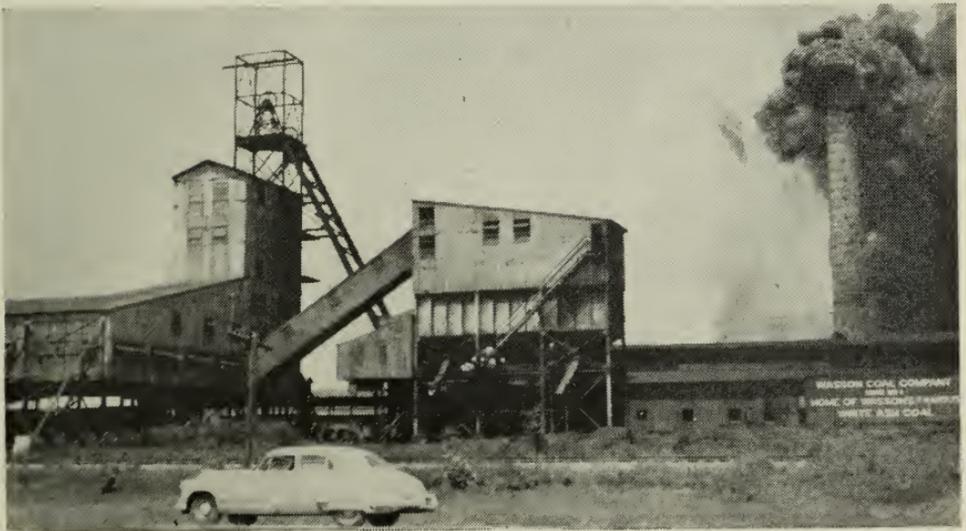


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Early Shaft Coal Mine, 1905.



Modern Shaft Coal Mine of Wasson Coal Co., 1947.

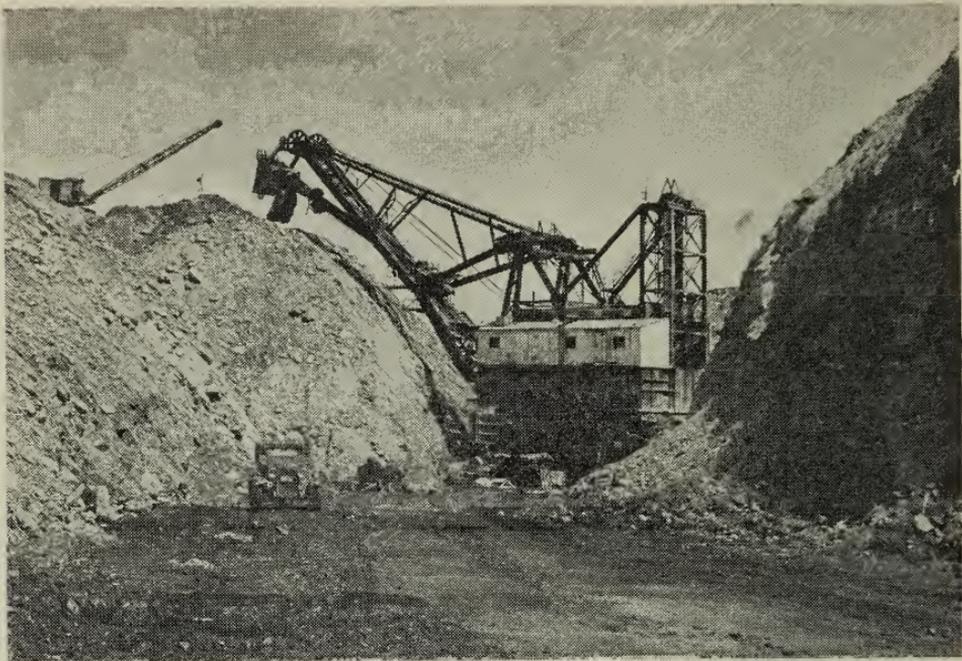


PHOTO COURTESY SAHARA COAL CO.

1947 Strip Mine, Sahara Coal Co.



PHOTO COURTESY SAHARA COAL CO.

Coal Washer, Sahara Coal Co.

Coal Mining Co. was organized, and it sunk a shaft mine which later became O'Gara mine No. 4. The group included James C. Heenan, D. N. Anderson, E. E. Ledford, George Harris, George W. Robertson, Frank Harris, F. M. Pickett, D. C. Ledford, Robert Horning, John Cox, Ed Lewis, S. E. Davidson, A. G. Abney, Sigel Ledford, James Pickering, Med Ledford, W. W. Stewart, Thomas Pierson, J. W. Ralston, and J. P. Neirstheimer. These men were farmers, miners, and business men of Harrisburg. Pickett was the editor of the newspaper, and Abney was an attorney.

The men sunk their mine to the No. 7 vein of coal, which was a little above the No. 5 vein. The mine was located near the City of Harrisburg's southeastern limits, between the two mines later designated as O'Gara mines No. 3 and No. 9. The mine was popularly called the "Poppycrat." Davenport soon bought out most of the owners except Robertson, and operated the mine until it, too, was sold to the O'Gara company in 1905. After Davenport acquired control of the property, the shaft was deepened to the No. 5 vein.

Until 1902, the development of the coal industry in the county was dependent entirely upon local capital. Generally speaking, the industry developed in proportion to the profits the local operators were able to make and pour back into additional development. The rapid expansion during the early years reflects great credit on the business acumen and the daring of Davenport, White, Alsop, Howell and others, who were directing all their energies to the development of the new industry in the county. However, in 1902, outside capital, for the first time, ventured into the county.

Charles G. New, of Pennsylvania, had come into the county to purchase poultry. While here, he noticed all the activity in the early coal development, and purchased

some coal mining rights. He returned to his home in Pennsylvania, and attempted to interest his friends in the marvelous opportunities offered in the infant industry in Illinois. The story is told that his friends were extremely skeptical and refused to join him in the investment. However, it appeared that they were much interested in a certain horse race in which New had a horse. The result was that New's friends promised him that if his horse won the race, they would join him in the coal mining business in Saline County. New's horse won, and new capital came to Saline County.

The men incorporated the New Coal Company, and sent J. J. Morris, at present residing in Harrisburg, to the county to sink a mine. The mine was known locally as the "Pennsylvania" mine because of the ownership. Others brought to the county by the company were J. Harry Eisenhower, father of Mrs. S. M. Farrar, Joe Coslett, and Dan Dewar. The mine was sunk at the immediate south end of Granger Street in Harrisburg, on the site where the present plant of the Smith Packing Co. stands. The mine was started on October 6, 1902. It was a deep shaft mine, and later was sold to the O'Gara company, and renamed the No. 9 mine. It was operated until the World War I period when it was closed because of exhaustion of its coal reserves.

About this same time, 1902, Davenport, together with T. J. Patterson, John T. Gaskins, and George T. Gaskins, formed the Egyptian Coal & Coke Co. with a capitalization of \$70,000.00. T. J. Patterson was president of the company, although the mines of the company were under the active supervision of Davenport. The company sank two mines which were later sold to the O'Gara company, and known as O'Gara No. 2 and O'Gara No. 3. Davenport was the owner of the eighty acres of land upon which the mines were opened. Both were deep shaft

mines. No. 2 mine was immediately east of the Harrisburg city limits, something like two hundred yards from the railroad depot, and No. 3 was south of No. 2 a distance of a quarter of a mile. The present machine shops of the Sahara Coal Co., successor to O'Gara Coal Co., are located on the mine No. 2 property. Both mines have long since been worked out and abandoned. The No. 3 mine was worked until 1937, when it was filled with water from the flood of that year. The flood water was pumped out of the mine with the assistance of the State but merely for the purpose of recovering machinery, and the mine was never operated afterward.

Davenport continued as president of Davenport Coal Co. until his death in 1906. The company, during this period, sunk two other mines, about four miles southwest of Harrisburg which were known as Mine A and Mine B. Other officers of the company at the time were Samuel W. McCune, vice-president, Charles P. Hewitt, secretary-treasurer, and Thomas W. Davenport, eldest son of John, acted as general superintendent of both mines. The holdings for these two mines totaled twelve hundred acres of coal land, and the vein averaged seven feet in thickness at a depth of one hundred feet.

Mine B was known locally as "Steel Tipple," and both mines were later sold to the Saline County Coal Co., headed by C. I. Pierce of Chicago. This company is not to be confused with a coal company under the same name which was organized by local people, and whose properties were sold before Pierce organized his company. The Pierce company opened and purchased other mines in the county. The corporate name later was changed to Big Creek Coals, Inc., and in 1929, all its Saline County properties were sold to the Peabody Coal Co. of Chicago.

The Saline County Coal Co. opened Saline No. 3 mine, one mile west of Harrisburg, in 1911. This mine was

operated until the late 30's. Saline No. 4 was sunk in 1924, four miles due west of Harrisburg, but was never completely developed or operated. A large fault was found in early development of entries, and it never was considered profitable to continue operations at the site.

Saline No. 5 was sunk adjacent to Galatia, and was the second deepest shaft mine in the county. It never was operated much after World War I. Saline No. 6 was situated at Grayson, the colored settlement southeast of Eldorado, and was bought from the Harrisburg Southern Coal Co., that opened it. It ceased operations in the late 1920's.

The Diamond Coal Company was organized in 1904 by John B. Lee, his brother-in-law, Acquilla Dorris, and others. They sunk a shaft mine midway between Muddy and Wasson, directly on the Big Four Railroad. It was sold to the O'Gara company in 1905, and at that time, had an operating capacity of two hundred fifty tons daily. It was developed later to a daily capacity of thirty-three hundred tons. The name was changed to O'Gara No. 1 mine, and was worked until the 1940's, before its coal reserves were exhausted.

The year 1905 was an important one in the Saline County coal industry. In the early part of the year, "the scene of the councils which brought it into existence being the Marquette Building in Chicago," the O'Gara Coal Company was organized with a capitalization of six million dollars. Thomas J. O'Gara was president, Thomas J. Jones, treasurer, and W. A. Brewerton, was secretary. The company purchased many mines in the county, and became the largest producer of coal in this part of the State. At that time, the county was producing annually approximately four hundred twenty-five thousand tons of coal with an underground employment of slightly over four hundred miners. By the end

of 1906, the O'Gara company had purchased most of the shipping mines in the county. At that time, there were fifteen shipping mines and seven local mines. Approximately one thousand miners were employed, and they produced half a million tons of coal annually.

Shortly before 1905, Charles M. Wasson, Ross Seten, George Seten, Harry Pierson, and John Pierson organized the first Saline County Coal Company. They sunk a shaft mine on the farm of George Riley in 1905. It was located south and a little west of Harrisburg, and was known as the old "Pinhook" mine. The name of the company was changed that year to Saline Gas and Coal Co., and that same year, the mine was sold to the O'Gara company, and became known as O'Gara No. 6 mine.

In that same year, J. J. Morris, who had come to the county for the New Coal Co., together with his Pennsylvania comrades, Coslett and Dewar, opened the "Green Gravel" mine between Ledford and Carrier Mills. The mine was sold to the O'Gara company in October 1905, and became known thereafter as O'Gara No. 7 mine.

In 1905, the deepest shaft mine in the county was sunk near Eldorado. It was known as the Seagraves mine, and later was sold to the J. K. Dering Coal Co.

The year 1906 saw the O'Gara company gain a virtual monopoly of the deep shaft mines in the county. Almost without exception, they stretched along side the Big Four Railroad tracks in the county. The Eldorado Coal Co. had been formed prior to that time, and had sunk two mines in and at the edge of the City of Eldorado. The O'Gara company purchased both these mines on October 15, 1906, and renamed them O'Gara No. 10 mine, and O'Gara No. 11 mine.

In this same period, another company, the Harrisburg Big Muddy Coal Co., was organized. The principal owner was T. J. Patterson. A mine was sunk on the railroad

in Muddy. The shaft was sunk through a fault, and Patterson thought he had reached the No. 5 vein, when he really had penetrated the No. 7 vein. The O'Gara company purchased this mine on July 1, 1906, and designated it as its No. 12 mine.

The Carrier Mills Coal Co. had sunk a mine in the Thompson community, near Carrier Mills, and on May 22, 1906, sold this property to the O'Gara company. It was designated as the No. 13 mine, although it had been purchased before the No. 12 mine. The interesting thought arises from this transaction that Thomas J. O'Gara bore an Irish name, and probably was somewhat superstitious, inasmuch as the No. 13 mine was shut down immediately on purchase, and never was operated thereafter.

The Ledford Coal Co. had sunk a deep shaft mine to the No. 5 vein of coal in 1905 a short distance north of the village of Ledford. The O'Gara company purchased this property on July 12, 1906, and designated it as its No. 14 mine.

At the same time when sinking the "Green Gravel" mine, J. J. Morris, together with Joe Coslett, Alex Morris, Dan Dewar, and Charles V. Parker sunk a deep shaft mine north of Carrier Mills. This mine was sold to the O'Gara company on April 15, 1906, and was designated the No. 15 mine. These purchases rounded out the acquisition program of the O'Gara company.

In 1906, Charles M. Wasson took the proceeds from the sale to the O'Gara company of the old "Pinhook" mine, and organized the Wasson Coal Company. He interested relatives and friends in his new company including John T. Gaskins and George T. Gaskins, of Harrisburg, and Colonel C. H. Burnett, of Eldorado. They sank a mine half way between Harrisburg and Eldorado, about a mile north of the O'Gara No. 1 mine. The new mine

was a deep shaft mine, and was designated Wasson No. 1. It proved more costly than anticipated to sink the mine, and before completion, Wasson found it necessary to secure additional finance. This was done by the sale of stock to coal operators from Vincennes, Indiana, with whom Wasson was associated in this, and other, companies until his death. George T. Gaskins sold his interest in the company to Wasson in the 1920's.

The Wasson company is the only original mining company yet in operation in the county with the same corporate name, and substantially the same owners. After the decease of Charles M. Wasson, his son, Loran A. Wasson, became president, and continues in that capacity at this time. This company also has the distinction of operating the only shaft mine, which was opened in that early period, continuously to the present time.

In later years, the Wasson company opened a slope mine a few miles south of Carrier Mills. The mine was opened in 1916, and was designated Wasson "A" mine. It has not operated during the past ten or twelve years, but it was the largest slope mine operation to that time. The vein penetrated averaged four and one-half feet in thickness.

The years 1917 and 1918 brought two more important shaft mine developments to the county. In 1917, the Harrisburg Colliery Co. was organized by J. H. Kilmer and Ed Qualkenbush, of Chicago, and D. K. Seten and O. D. Norman, of Harrisburg. Norman, the father of the writer, was the grandson of John Riben Norman, the operator of the first mine in the county. Quackenbush, Seten, and Norman were brothers-in-law, having each married a sister of Charles M. Wasson. Among others with them in the new company were a Mr. Cummins, of Chicago, and the Horner brothers, of Lawrence-

ville. They opened a mine in Brushy township, which is commonly called the Harco mine, around which a little community known as Harco, has grown. The Big Four constructed a switch to the mine, and the mine has been in continuous operation since opening. The present capacity of the mine is slightly over five thousand tons of coal daily. It was sold to the Peabody Coal Co. in 1929, by which company it presently is being operated.

In 1918, the J. K. Dering Coal Co. opened a shaft mine about three miles west of Eldorado, which was designated the Dering No. 2 mine. The shaft is 465 feet deep, and the mine, at the present time, is completely mechanized. In 1930, the mine changed operating ownership and was operated by the Rex Coal Co. for a few years. This mine yet is in operation, and produces an average of two thousand tons of coal daily. Most of the coal now being recovered lies over two and a half miles back from the hoisting shaft.

In 1918, John H. Crawford began to sink a slope mine three or four miles west of Harco, and platted a village there by the name of Crawford. He operated with a company named the Saline Valley Coal Co. This mine never was put in operation. In 1919, a very shallow slope mine was opened and operated at Carrier Mills by George Dodds, under the name of Dodds Coal Company. It never became very prosperous, and has long since been abandoned.

John H. Crawford organized the Harrisburg Coal Mining Co. in 1927, and began the first substantial "stripping" operations in the county. Crawford opened two mines known as No. 8 and No. 9, located southwest of Harrisburg about five miles. Operations at these mines ceased several years ago.

The Rhondda Coal Company was formed, in 1923, by Mrs. Mary Ann Ledford, once the widow of William

Alsop, and James Gray, then in the ice cream wholesale business in Harrisburg, Reuben Williams, and others. The company opened a slope mine at the south limits of Harrisburg, on land from under which the deeper vein coal had been recovered through operations from the old O'Gara No. 9 mine. This company invested nearly one hundred thousand dollars in the Rhondda mine, but the economic distress in the coal industry in the 20's finally forced the cessation of operation of the property.

The Bluebird Coal Co., in which T. J. Cochran, of Chicago, was the principal owner, began operations in the county in 1929. The company operates both slope and stripping properties. It recently has developed a new slope operation southwest of Harrisburg. The initial mines were very near Carrier Mills, although the company's office is in Harrisburg. The company also formed the New Coal Co., a couple of years ago, and opened another slope mine about three miles south of Harrisburg.

This era brought into full development the new practice of removing coal by "stripping" operations. This operation entailed the use of great shovels to remove the overburden of dirt on top the vein of coal nearest the surface, and then removing the coal by means of the same great shovels. The operating cost of this type of mining is much lower than deep shaft mining, and the first result of the new policy was to force the mechanization of the shaft mines in order to meet the strippers in a competitive market on an equal basis.

The competition of strip mines together with the competition of other fuels such as oil, gas, and electric power generated by water power, brought about great changes in the mining of coal in the nation, and in Saline County, following the 1930's. For many years, ef-

forts had been made to invent a workable loading machine which would lessen the burdensome cost of hand loading the coal. This, at the time, was practically impossible because, as was frequently stated, "A loading machine has no eyes," and loaded rock, sulphur, and other impurities at the same time it loaded the coal. The problem was solved by separating the impurities from good coal on top, rather than below. Great "washers" were developed which utilized the difference in the specific gravity of coal from that of the impurities, and thus separate them after the coal had been hoisted to the surface. At present in the county, Peabody operates one of these great washers at Harco mine, and Bankston Creek operates another at its mines west of Harrisburg.

The Bankston Creek Collieries, Inc., was formed to operate the slope and stripping operations of the Woods brothers, and in continuation of their business conducted as the Sahara Coal Co., successor to the old O'Gara Coal Co. Just before World War I, the old O'Gara Coal Co. had lapsed into receivership in financial difficulties arising, in part, from its top-heavy capitalization at the time of organization. The first World War placed it on the profit side again, and the receivership ended. President O'Gara then sold control to the Woods brothers, of Lincoln, Nebraska, and Chicago. The Woods brothers were interested in many great enterprises, including the Addressograph Company, the Woods Brothers Construction Co., and others. The same interests yet own the Sahara Coal Co., and the Bankston Creek Collieries.

Early in 1936, Woods purchased a great shovel and began stripping operations in the area four miles west of Harrisburg. They have pursued this type of operations, combined with extensive slope operations, exclusively following the cessation of operations at its old

shaft mines. The great Bucyrus-Erie shovel, now in use at the Bankston No. 6 mine, is one of the largest in the world. This gigantic shovel is over eight stories high, and weighs one thousand tons. Forty railway cars were necessary to haul it to the mine for operation. It moves forward and backward on four tractors. It has a bucket capacity of thirty cubic yards, and requires the services of three men to operate it. The company keeps the shovel in continuous operation, using three separate, eight-hour shifts daily.

One of the most dangerous hazards in early coal mining operations arose from the use of powder in blasting. The invention of smokeless powder, and the practice of waiting until the men were out of the mine to "shoot," helped lower this hazard somewhat, but the hazard was lowered substantially by the discovery of the use of liquid oxygen. The Bankston Creek Collieries has on its property west of Harrisburg the Airmite plant where oxygen is liquified by compression at three hundred degrees below zero, and then contained in a form of cartridge, in which form it is used to blast.

Bankston mines No. 4, No. 5, No. 16, and No. 17 are all slope mines opened within the last ten years. Bankston No. 4 was a slope opened to recover coal which the company was unable to mine following the flooding of the old No. 3 shaft mine. Operations ceased here in 1947, following the recovery of the coal originally comprised in the old No. 3 block. The other mines of Bankston Creek are west of Harrisburg.

Peabody Coal Company, at the present time, has purchased additional coal land two miles west of the Harco mine, and is opening a large slope operation. The cutting and loading machines used in these slope operations are carried on large rubber tired wheels, thus departing forever from the old practice of using miniature railroad

cars on steel rails. The coal in the newer mine operations is hoisted to the surface by a conveyor belt system, and then hauled to the coal washed in great automobile trucks carrying twelve tons. The whole system is an ingeniously economical plan worthy of comparison with the best of mass production efforts.

The social and economic impact of the development of the coal industry on Saline County cannot be overestimated. The county was purely agricultural before the development of coal mining. Not the least of these changes was in regard to population.

The population of the county in 1890 totaled 19,342, and of these, only 124 were foreign born. Of these, most were German, with the Scotch and English representation being the next largest. In 1910, there were 1,563 foreign born. In the decade between 1900 and 1910, the foreign born had increased twelve fold. The entire population of the county increased during the same period by 8,518. The next ten years further increased the total population by another eight thousand, and also slightly increased the number of foreign born. During these years, great numbers of immigrants from the British Isles, Lithuania, Hungary, Austria, France, Belgium, and Italy came to Saline County. Primarily, they were attracted by the coal industry, which had been their occupation in the old countries. Many came because relatives or friends had preceded them, and had written them of the prosperity in the new coal field. In 1920, there were 1,686 foreign born residing in the county. The great majority of them were English or Scotch, many were Lithuanians or Russians, but there were very few French and Italians in the county.

The one outstanding fact about this foreign born population is that it was rapidly assimilated in the social structure of the county. Almost without exception, the

immigrants became naturalized as soon as legally was possible. Their children were sent to the public school system, and quickly adopted American customs and methods. Within two decades, intermarriage wiped out nationalistic consciousness and differentiation. After a few years, the population of native born took the newcomers into their midst with an almost imperceptible movement. The county action in this regard is one of the finest instances of the fusion possible in the great melting pot of America.

Another interesting fact is that the Italians—and there were but a few families—settled north of Muddy, for the most part, and soon had set out vineyards that resulted in a material addition to the agriculture of the county.

Obviously, the banking industry grew in proportion to the development of the coal industry. But, unlike some other communities where the coal industry was largely developed by outside capital, the wealth of the industry in the county was owned mainly by natives. The wealth dug out of the ground passed to these native coal operators, to the farm owners, and to resident coal miners. It then passed to the business, professional, and other men and women of the county. The present business structure of the county discloses names that proves this condition beyond a doubt. In Eldorado, there remains Colonel C. H. Burnett; in Harrisburg, R. C. Davenport and George O. Davenport, sons of the original coal pioneer, are engaged in banking and business; Loran A. Wasson, son of Charles M., is the president of the original company bearing that name; J. M. Pruett, and his son, John H., are extensive proprietors of real estate, both rural and business, and are engaged in banking and other businesses; Frank P. Parker, son of Charles V., is engaged in various business enterprises and banks.

This list of wealthy business men could be lengthened interminably, all of which merely would furnish cumulative evidence that the county has never fallen into absentee ownership evils, and has never been subject to the whims or caprice of outside capital.

While it is true that the coal industry, during the half century of intensive operation, has exacted a great toll in injuries and deaths from the hazardous occupation, nevertheless, no county in Southern Illinois has been so fortunate in having the material advantages accruing from the industry, and at the same time so few of the disadvantages incident to the industry. The social fabric of the county has successfully withstood the inroads of carelessness usually attendant with quick development of one, primary industry, and all during the years, the people have constantly held the wealth and benefits of agriculture in their proper proportion in the county economy.

Many churches and good schools, a substantial community and civic pride and spirit, a deep founded regard for the essentials of family and community life, have enabled Harrisburg, Eldorado, Carrier Mills, Raleigh, and Galatia, as well as the smaller communities, to avoid falling into the category of "mere mining camps," and more so than any other county in the State, Saline County accepted, received, and entertained the intense industrialization of the coal industry in its economic and social stride.

X.

Transportation Over a Century

By Grace Collier

RIVER transportation played an important part in the settlement and development of Southern Illinois, and in consequence, in the history of Saline County. The story of the Mississippi has its chapters affecting this area, but it is the story of the Ohio that deals more intimately with the history of the county. The Ohio furnished the only broad, comparatively easy avenue of travel open to the pioneers, who came from the East and the Southeast, to found a civilization in the hills and forests in the southernmost part of, what now is called, Egypt. The Ohio River had its limitations, however, for it merely transported the immigrants to the spots on its shores where communities were founded; penetration into the forests necessitated another form of transportation. After the settlements began to grow in places removed from the Ohio's shores, then again, water transportation was utilized, and the settlers in the Saline County area made full use of the available means, and in particular, the water transportation afforded by the Saline River.

Communities quickly developed following the year, 1800, at Shawneetown, Elizabethtown, Rosiclare, Golconda, and Metropolis, and the Ohio played its full share in the development. But the early settlers began moving back from the river just as soon as they reached the river bank, and in order to clear parts of the forest, they were required first to use the avenues then easiest to meet their requirements. The most expeditious avenues available were the early Indian trails. Not only did these trails furnish markings to guide the settlers, but they followed routes skirting swamps, bogs, and tedious climbs, and at the same time, avoided unnecessarily long journeys between points.

The Indians, traditionally and historically, were no-

mads, and traveled about a great deal. While they followed, to a great extent, general directions and routes near rivers and streams, nevertheless, they, at times, blazed trails that struck out across country to avoid natural pitfalls. In the main, the trails permitted the settlers to avoid the lengthy and laborious work of accurately investigating and surveying substantial parts of the entire country-side, in order to ascertain the nearest best, if not the best, routes. In addition, the trails were laid out by the Indians with a keen eye to the possibilities of securing adequate wild game supplies with a minimum of effort. This, to the early settlers, was no small consideration.

The trails, located as they were, led the settlers near the habitat of the buffalo, deer, and other wild animals and game, and equally important, led the pioneers to the salt springs. This included, not only the substantial salt springs later called the Gallatin Salines, but, also smaller ones along the Saline River, toward the area now included in Saline County.

The settlers immediately marked the trails. The Indians needed no markings, such as were indispensable to the pioneers. Accordingly, wide slashes were cut on trees along the trail with axes, or numbers were cut or burned on the trees along the trail. These numbers often indicated the distance to the next village or settlement.

The trail was suitable for travel only on foot or horseback, and was not wide enough, or cleared of underbrush enough, for use by wagons or teams. An increased amount of traffic, in numbers and in the bulk of materials transported, induced the settlers to widen the most important trails as quickly as possible. Thus, they were made available to wagons and ox-teams. When widened, they then were called "traces."

There were no bridges for many long years following

the first entrance into the area by the white men. The trails, and consequently the first roads, did not cross streams often, and when streams were crossed, it was at places where the streams easily were forded in low water, or not too difficult to swim, in high water. This was not the hardship it appears today. Men and women alike wore rough, homespun clothing which suffered little or none from a slight wetting. Boots and shoes were tough, durable articles of hard leather. Travelers, on foot or horseback, carried with them no equipment which could be considered an impediment to arduous and rapid travel under difficulties. Forging a stream was no more a problem to the pioneers than moving through underbrush, or climbing over the ridges of foot-hills. There was nothing to transport in those days that required a bridge, and the fact it would have been almost impossible to construct a bridge mattered less than the absence of much need for one.

The larger streams, such as the Ohio and the Mississippi, were crossed by ferries. There were many ferries across the Ohio between Shawneetown and Metropolis as early as 1805, but there were none across the smaller streams inland such as the Saline River.

When increased colonization brought heavy traffic on a "trace," and it was used frequently by wagons, ox-teams, stagecoaches, and became a busy frontier thoroughfare, it was called a "road." Bridges were built, ferries started, and inns built and opened along the road. There were several of these main roads through the Saline County area, and for the most part, they were important ones. As could be expected, many connecting roads were established which permitted cross-traffic between the main roads. Although the designation of "trails," "traces," and "roads" was generally followed, this was not an invariable practice, and often, a main

thoroughfare continued to be called a "trail," or a "trace," long after it actually became a main road.

There were two roads that played an important part in the history and development of Saline County. They were the Kaskaskia Trail and the Goshen Road. The Kaskaskia Trail was an early route leading east from Kaskaskia, across the southern part of the Illinois Territory, to the Gallatin Salines, and Shawneetown, at which latter place, it met the roads from the East and Southeast, from whence came a steady stream of immigrants. The Goshen Road was a wagon road, laid out in the Fall of 1808, which ran between the Goshen Settlement, in Madison County, and the Gallatin Salines, and over which salt was hauled to the Mississippi River settlement. The two ran together for some distance west of the Salines on the same route. A short distance southeast of the Eldorado settlement, the roads divided. The Kaskaskia Trail then branched a little to the south of the Goshen Road, and passing the Brown blockhouse, near the present site of Eldorado, continued west on the range of hills north of Raleigh to the Karnes blockhouse, near the place where Bethel Creek church now stands; thence, by the Gasaway blockhouse, to the Frankfort area, and thence to Kaskaskia. Since the blockhouses mentioned were built along this trail—long after the trail was first established, it perhaps is more accurate to say the trail ran along what is now the State Highway, almost to Eldorado; then by the foot of the hill, upon which Wolf Creek Church stands, and between the old and new cemeteries; then slightly northwest by the Martin Kittinger place; thence on through the Masonic Cemetery, north of Raleigh; thence on by Bethel Creek church, and crossed the Benton road northwest of Galatia.

The Goshen Road passed through Saline City, which

is now the north section of Eldorado; then north and northwest across Rector Creek, to the county line; thence in a northwesterly direction to Goshen, which was southeast of the present city of Edwardsville. These roads were the means by which the people of Kaskaskia and Goshen got their produce to the Shawneetown market, procured salt from the Salines, and received mail and news from the East.

It is interesting to consider the vehicles used on these early routes. Wooden sleds were used when the roads were first opened, and were too narrow to permit the use of wagons. The first wagons, or ox carts—called truck wagons—had solid wheels sawed from black gum logs. Later, as the roads were improved, more modern wagons and sulkeys were used, and, eventually, stagecoaches came into general use for passengers and mail.

Some of the roads which connected the larger, well established villages soon became "mail routes." It was over these roads that mail was carried, first by horseback, and later by wagons, sulkeys, and yet later, by stagecoaches. Small villages and settlements were started, and grew along the mail routes. Blacksmith shops and inns were located at various spots along the mail routes, both in, and between, the villages. Country stores were started along the routes to serve the new communities and the travelers. Thus grew the necessity for more postoffices, and the Government soon established postoffices in these country stores.

According to postal records in Washington, four of these mail routes from Shawneetown were opened before 1824, and at least two, and perhaps three, of them passed through the Saline County area. Mail was carried from Shawneetown, on route No. 368, to Saline, Frankfort, Brownsville, Kaskaskia, Prairie du Rocher, Alexander or Black Heath, and return, a distance of one

hundred fifty-five miles each way. A covered wagon first was used on this route, which ran over the Kaskaskia Trail.

The second route to pass through this area was numbered No. 387, and ran from Shawneetown to McLeansboro, and return, for a distance of forty-seven miles, one way. No stops were made en route, and the Goshen Road was used in passage through the Saline County area.

The old Golconda road, to the Salines, passed through the Saline County area on the east side of Eagle Mountain. It is not thought that this road was used ever as a mail route, but it was an important road from the Pope County settlements to the Salines. It passed through Eagle Valley, and touched such Saline County communities as Derby and Horseshoe.

Later, there were two more routes opened from Shawneetown. From 1834 to 1838, Shawneetown received mail twice a week from St. Louis by four-horse stagecoaches. Doubtless, this was an extension of the earlier route to Kaskaskia, and the same trail was used.

The second of these later routes, added from 1834 to 1838, was to Cape Girardeau, from Shawneetown, and was numbered No. 3101. It passed through Mount Airy, which was in the extreme southeast corner of what is now Saline County. The mail was carried by four-horse, stagecoach.

It was during this period of the history of the county that river transportation over the inland river—the Saline—began to assume greater importance. The development of greater production of salt at the Salines had progressed by leaps and bounds, and small settlements had been established further inland, in the Saline County area, on the river. One of these was the little settlement of Whitesville, founded by Benjamin White. Another, Mitchellsville, was started, a little later, some miles fur-

ther west on the Saline River, and deeper in the Saline County area. This one was started by Stephen Mitchell. From both of these early settlements, grain, pork, tobacco, and other produce was shipped down the Saline River to Shawneetown, and thus both up and down the Ohio, to other markets.

Flat-boats were often built on the upper stretches of the Saline River, loaded with produce, and floated down the river to the Ohio. In the absence of motive power to return the boats to Whitesville or Mitchellsville, the boats then were sold to purchasers on the Ohio River. Cargoes of corn, wheat, tobacco, salted pork, and much other produce, including hides, were common on the Saline River for many years. The improvement and development of roads, together with the advent of the steamboat on the Ohio, finally made transportation on the Saline River too slow and cumbersome, and competitively more expensive, and ultimately it disappeared. During the period of this Saline River travel, flat-boats, keel-boats, and rafts were all used to great advantage. In this respect, it is interesting to note that, at an early date, the Illinois General Assembly enacted laws declaring almost all the inland rivers, including the Saline, to be navigable streams.

One means of improving roads during, and following this period, was by the use of logs, laid side-wise across the road. This means was particularly important in the Saline County area, in those portions of the county where the land was very low, and where swamps and bogs were the results of overflow of the three branches, or forks, of the Saline River, and a somewhat heavy rainfall. One of these roads ran near the future site of Harrisburg, to the settlements near Eldorado, and was called the "Old Dick" road. It did not enter upon Crusoe's Island, which was the site of Harrisburg, and it is assumed that this

was because the land surrounding the Island was so low as to make travel impossible during much of the year.

The territory now included in Saline County was, during those years before the Civil War, a richly productive area, and, when considered with the commerce to and from the Salines, and Shawneetown, formed a comparatively busy commercial region. Obviously, the final determination of the extent of the prosperity of the area depended upon the moving of its produce and products to larger settlements, towns, and cities along the Ohio and Mississippi, and back East. Thus, the people, at an early date, were transportation minded, and the significance of the railroad was not lost upon them.

As early as 1838, a survey was made for a railroad to run from Alton to Shawneetown, which was to be called the "Shawneetown & Alton Railroad." This particular railroad was never built, and when one was built through the territory to be served, it did not follow the old survey.

Following the establishment of the village of Harrisburg, talk and efforts to construct a railroad increased, and gained momentum. Within seven years after the beginning of Harrisburg, in 1853, promotion of the Illinois Southern Railroad gained considerable impetus. In the *Harrisburg Chronicle*, of January 1, 1860, we read that, "We learn the following facts in reference to the Illinois Southern R. R. from our Director, Hon. Jo Robinson. The officers of the road met at Carmi, in White County, on the 11th inst., at which meeting the contract published in our paper a few weeks since was unanimously adopted with the following amendment: It is hereby further understood and agreed between the parties hereto, that so much of the foregoing contract as relates to the time for completing the said Railroad be so modified and changed as to extend the time for fin-

ishing the work one year, and that the individual subscriptions obtained, or to be obtained, hereafter, so far as they are solvent, be considered as a part of the nine hundred thousand dollars hereinbefore stipulated to be paid to the said J. C. and D. W. Stanton, by the said Railroad Co., except such subscriptions as they, the said Stantons, may themselves obtain, to which the above provision has no reference. The contract as referred to and amended was signed by the following officers of the Company: Wm. R. Wilkinson, President; J. N. Jayness, James Fackney, and Jo Robinson, Directors."

"We learn also that the company have made arrangements for the iron to complete the Road as far as Carmi. The contractors expect to finish fifty miles of the road by next fall, and we wish them success and a speedy trip with the work to Harrisburg.

"Now that the prospects of our Railroad enterprise are bright, we hope the citizens of Saline County will take an active part in the work, and encourage the same by lending a helping hand to the Company, that they may be enabled to complete the Road as soon as possible."

Unfortunately, the Illinois Southern Railroad was never completed, and it was not until General Green Berry Raum returned from his Civil War service that another road began to take form. General Raum, in 1867, began the promotion of the Cairo and Vincennes Railroad, and as was necessary, sought contributions, and stock purchases, from the counties through which the proposed road was to pass, as well as from individuals. General Raum and Doctor John W. Mitchell were associated in the active promotion of the road, and later, acted as partners in the sub-contract of a part of the grading work, in the actual construction of the road.

The *Harrisburg Chronicle*, of July 17, 1867, had this

to report concerning the progress of the road promotion: "The election in Alexander Co.—As we anticipated, Alexander Co. has voted largely in favor of the \$100,000 subscription to the Stock of the Cairo and Vincennes R. R. We are permitted to publish the following letter from D. Hurd, Esq.—a citizen of Cairo and one of the Directors of the Company, to Dr. John W. Mitchell of this place:

Office of D. Hurd & Son
Cairo, Ills., July 16th, 1867.

J. W. Mitchell, Esq.
Harrisburg, Ills.

Dear Sir:

I again have the pleasure of informing you that our city has carried the county subscription to the Vincennes R. R. handsomely. Poll not yet closed, but we already have nearly 100 more affirmative votes in the city than will carry the whole county. This is glorious, & I think settles the question of the speedy building of the road. We will raise \$75,000 to \$100,000 by private subscriptions. Let all the other counties imitate Alexander, and the work is done. I have telegraphed General Raum.

Your letter came to hand yesterday, & was read at a Mass Meeting here last night and loudly cheered. I have no doubt but we will get plenty of aid from abroad just as soon as we show any disposition to help ourselves.

Yours, truly,
D. Hurd"

Saline County, in October, 1867, followed the example of Alexander County, and voted to subscribe to bonds to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, as its share toward the building of the road. The contract, with reference to the road's entrance into the county, provided that twenty-six miles of road was to be constructed in the county, and the Harrisburg should be a

permanent point on the road. The contract further provided that the road be completed within three years, but this provision was extended for a period of two additional years. It was not completed until 1872. General Raum, as president of the Cairo and Vincennes Rail Road Co., signed the contract with the county.

Exactly two years to a month later than the voting to purchase these bonds, the county held a double election upon the question of purchasing bonds to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars, of the St. Louis and Southeastern Railway Company, and also to subscribe to bonds in the amount of seventy-five thousand dollars, of the Belleville and Eldorado Railway Company. Both propositions carried almost two to one.

None of the roads were completed until 1871, and, as in the past, the mail continued to be carried over land routes. This method of transporting mail continued quite a few years after the completion of the railroads, and as late as 1878, the *Harrisburg Chronicle* carried the overland schedule of mail routes: "Marion—arrives Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 3 O'clock P. M.; Leaves, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 9 A. M. Golconda—Arrives Tuesday and Saturday, at 6 O'clock P. M.; Leaves Monday and Friday at 7 A. M. Somerset—Leaves, Friday, at 7 O'clock A. M.; Arrives at 12 M."

The years during which the railroad construction work was progressing were such as to engage the constant interest of the people of the county. This was particularly true about the construction of the Cairo and Vincennes road. The *Harrisburg Chronicle*, on May 17, 1872, in its Town and County column, reported: "John J. Jones, who has lately accepted a 'boss' job on Mr. Rice's contract, on the C. & V. R. R., is driving ahead, with git-up-and-git energy." And again, "Arthur Rice, Esq., informs us that Dr. Beggs and Thos. Smith have

lately erected a commodious boarding 'shanty' on sect. 4 of his contract, & will board the hands at work for Mr. R." And again, "Josiah Gold, who has sections 95 & 96 of Raum & Mitchell's contract, on the C. & V. R. R. to complete, informs us that he is progressing very rapidly with his work. Laborers & persons having teams, will find employment by calling on him & will be treated well."

The completion of the St. Louis & Southeastern Railroad, in 1871, gave the county fifteen miles of railroad, and opened up St. Louis as a market, for the county. This road was acquired by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, in 1880, and still is operated by that company. Eldorado was, and yet is, the only city in Saline County having a station. The road extends northwest into Hamilton County, and southeast into Gallatin County.

The line from Cairo to Vincennes was operated by that company, from 1872 to 1874, when it fell into receivership, and remained thus for six years. In 1880, a new company, designated Cairo and Vincennes Railway Company, was formed and took the line over. The following year, 1881, this company was merged with the Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific, along with the Danville and Southwestern, and the St. Francisville and Lawrenceville. These roads, with the Paris and Danville, were called the Cairo division of the Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific. In 1884, the entire line went into the hands of a receiver, and was so operated for a year. At this time, a separate receiver was appointed for the Cairo division. It was operated thus until 1889, when it was conveyed to the Cairo, Vincennes and Chicago Company, and was operated by this company from June, 1889, to January, 1890. From January, 1890, until January, 1913, the Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati, and St. Louis Railway Company operated the line under a lease, and in January, 1913,

this company, commonly called the Big Four, purchased the property. It is now operated as a division of the New York Central system. The Big Four was a New York Central property. The road enters the county from White County on the northeast, and extends diagonally across the county, leaving on the southwest and entering Johnson County. The line, in Saline County, passes through Texas City, Eldorado, Wasson, Muddy, Harrisburg, Ledford, Carrier Mills, and Stonefort.

The railroad now owned by the Illinois Central in Saline County, and originally named the Belleville and Eldorado Railroad Company, was incorporated by a public act on February 22, 1861. The projected course was from Belleville, in St. Clair County, through Benton, in Franklin County, and to Galatia, Raleigh, and Eldorado, in Saline County. On July 1, 1880, the property was leased for a period of 985 years to the St. Louis, Alton and Terre Haute Railroad. This road was comprised of the properties of the Belleville and Eldorado, the Belleville and Southern Illinois, the Belleville and Illinoistown, (now East St. Louis), and the Terre Haute and Alton Railroads. On October 1, 1895, the Illinois Central leased these properties, including the Saline County road, and in 1904, absorbed them into its own corporate structure. The Illinois Central has continued ownership and operation since that date.

The only other steam railroad trackage in Saline County is the so-called Edgewood Cut-off, a part of the Illinois Central System, running almost due north and south, from Edgewood, Illinois, to Fulton, Kentucky. The line enters Saline County almost due west of Harrisburg, on the Saline-Williamson County line. It runs south just inside the Saline County territory, to a point south of Stonefort. The fourteen or fifteen miles of this line, within Saline County, is a part of the 169 mile stretch

originally surveyed in 1916. The route finally was located in 1924, and construction immediately was started, and completed in 1928. The purpose of the line was to eliminate grades and curves in the direct line of the Illinois Central to the South. The present line has no grade exceeding .3 percent, and no curve over one degree, thirty minutes. The construction of the road permits increased freight traffic, with a reduced number of trains, and constitutes an engineering achievement of no mean proportion, and, although expensive to construct, has resulted in substantially reduced operational costs.

Saline County has possessed one electric railroad. It ran from Eldorado to Harrisburg, and to Carrier Mills, passing through Wasson, Muddy, and Ledford. The original franchise granted by the City of Harrisburg, on April 12, 1910, to the Egyptian Traction Company, accurately sets out the conditions under which the company operated. The franchise permitted electric, or any other motive, power except steam. The trolley wire through the city was to be at least sixteen feet high, and its tracks were four feet eight and one-half inches wide. Its speed was limited to ten miles per hour, in the business section, and fifteen miles per hour, in the residential section. It was permitted to haul freight in bulk after eleven in the evening. Its rates, in Harrisburg, were five cents for adults; three cents for those between six and twelve years of age; and children, under six, when accompanied by adults, were carried free. The rate charged from Eldorado to Harrisburg, and Harrisburg to Carrier Mills, was twenty-five cents. Cars were to be run each way from Harrisburg, every hour, from six o'clock in the morning to six o'clock in the evening, and once each way, every two hours, from six in the evening to ten at night. The term of the Harrisburg franchise was fifty years, and the road was to be com-

pleted within Harrisburg in two years, and the entire line in three years. At the time the franchise was granted, James B. Blackman was Mayor of Harrisburg, and Doctor C. E. Byington, J. M. Pruett, and J. H. Mal-lonee constituted the Ordinance Committee.

This traction line was operated under the name of Southern Illinois Railway and Power Company for many years. The company had its power plant at Muddy, and had a substantial business, both in passenger and freight traffic. The hard road building program, and the auto-mobile era, of the 1920's, made continued operation un-profitable, and the Illinois Commerce Commission au-thorized discontinuance of the cars by an order, dated November 25, 1931. However, the company was required to initiate a motor bus service over its franchise route. In 1918, the company was taken over by Central Illinois Public Service Company. The latter company utilized the power plant at Muddy for the generating of electric power for domestic consumers in the cities, and the in-dustrial users at the county's coal mines. In 1932, the tracks of the interurban line were taken up, and the bus line was sold shortly thereafter to local operators, under the company name of Saline Bus Line. It is yet operated under that name, and operates a bus each way from Har-risburg, once each two hour period.

The first city bus system was started in 1921, in Harrisburg, by William Brantley, together with Doctor F. M. Hart, his father-in-law. Brantley operated buses every thirty minutes from Dorrisville, to the public square, in Harrisburg. In 1932, Guy McCormack, son of Doctor L. McCormack, one of the early physicians, purchased the line, and operated it under the corporate name of Harrisburg-Dorrisville Bus Line. McCormack continues to operate the city bus line now.

The Travelstead Transportation System was incorpor-

ated, in 1939, and secured franchises to operate buses from Harrisburg to several coal mines. The Harrisburg-Dorrisville Bus Line purchased the Travelstead company in 1941, and yet operates the routes with new and modern buses.

The John David Bus Line was organized in 1945, and operates buses from Eldorado to McLeansboro, from Eldorado to Harrisburg, and from Eldorado to Shawneetown, and Equality.

The state administration under Governor Len Small stressed the construction of hard-surfaced roads throughout the entire State, and included Southern Illinois. This policy was followed under Governor L. L. Emmerson, and from 1920, to 1932, Southern Illinois was favored with many hard-surfaced, concrete highways.

At the present time, Saline County has State Route No. 34, which enters the county on the north, from Hamilton County, and goes through Galatia, Raleigh, Harrisburg, Pankeyville, Mitchellsville, and Rudement, and enters Pope County, at Herod, or Thacker's Gap. State Route No. 13 bisects the county almost equally, and runs from west to east. The route enters from Williamson County, on the west, and runs through Dallasania, Saline 4 Settlement, Harrisburg, and thence east to enter Gallatin County, near Equality. U. S. Route No. 45, running from the northeast to the southwest, parallels the New York Central railroad, through the entire distance in the county. A connecting State Highway, running from Raleigh to Eldorado, connects Route No. 34 and Route No. 45.

State Route No. 142 enters the county south of Broughton, runs thence to Eldorado, and then southeast to enter Gallatin County near Equality.

In addition to the concrete highways, the county, beginning in 1926, has constructed over a hundred miles

of gravel roads, designated as secondary roads. In that year, the voters of the county approved a four hundred fifty thousand dollar bond issue for the construction of the first comprehensive construction program of gravel roads. Since that time, separate townships have furthered the secondary plan by the construction of many miles of township gravel roads.

The construction of good roads, coupled with the development of the automobile era, and the construction within the cities of Harrisburg and Eldorado, of many miles of paved streets, completely changed the methods of both passenger and freight transportation. About the year 1924, the Egyptian Transportation System began passenger traffic with lines from Marion to Harrisburg, Harrisburg to Golconda, and many others. This system continued in business profitably, until the early 1930's, when individual use of automobiles, and the depression, caused the company to go broke.

The same routes are now covered by buses operated by Carbondale-Harrisburg Bus Lines. This company secured its certificates of necessity and convenience, and developed its patronage, during the years of World War II, when automobiles were not used for passenger travel, except to a minimum degree. The Carbondale-Harrisburg buses cover routes from Carbondale to Harrisburg; Harrisburg to Evansville, Indiana, and Harrisburg to Springfield, Illinois. The Southern Limited Bus Line, also, now operates a route coming from Paducah, Kentucky, through Harrisburg, and to the North.

The newest form of transportation is, of course, air transportation. The effect of the development of air transportation upon the economy of Saline County has not, as yet, been ascertained. The close proximity of the cities of Southern Illinois makes impractical individual air service by the larger, transcontinental lines.

Nevertheless, local service is not only practical, but a certain necessity. The early construction of local airfields, and the establishment of "feeder" air lines, offers, at the moment, the clearest plan for utilization of the new mode of transportation.

The first airport in Saline County was constructed, with the aid of Works Progress Administration, in 1934, a mile north of Harrisburg. It was used, principally, for local residents owning private planes. The field changed operational management several times. Another airport was constructed due east of Muddy, in 1945, and at present is used more extensively than the first. However, its use entirely is restricted to private planes. A school for training pilots has been maintained, at times, at both fields, and at present, the one at the Muddy Airport is well attended.

In 1947, the voters of the Townships of Harrisburg and Raleigh voted for the establishment of a Harrisburg-Raleigh Airport Authority, and the administrative details of the organization now are being perfected. The ultimate purpose is to construct a large airfield at some site within the two townships, and to develop the transportation possibilities of the area.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration, the Federal agency, and the Illinois Department of Aeronautics, the State agency, are both furthering plans, surveys, and development assistance to the cities of the Southern Illinois area. A further impetus to the development of air potentialities has been given by the return to civil life of a great many World War II veterans, who served in the Air Corps, and who, not only are air-minded but, also possess the flying skill and ability to develop air transportation with facility and rapidity.

It has been noted that following Indian trails, and the early traces, and roads, river transportation on the

Saline River was a material contribution to the economy of the county. A century later, this method of transportation again appears in the, perhaps not too distant, future. The possibility of new and greater utilization of the tremendous coal deposits in the county, the approaching practicability of capturing the deeper deposits of coal in the county, makes imperative the consideration of again transporting products on the Saline River. Preliminary plans have been sketched out, and much discussion has resulted, from the possibility of dredging the Saline River from the mouth, at the Ohio River, back as far as Mitchellsville, and thus providing a cheap means of transporting Saline County's coal. In this age of the expenditure of enormous sums of money by the State and Federal Governments in public works programs, it is easily conceivable that Saline River transportation may not be many decades in the future.



PHOTO COURTESY MR. AND MRS. JAMES SCOTT

Nineteenth Century Travel on Sunday.



PHOTO COURTESY MAUD BRADSHAW.

Crowd at Raleigh assembled to view first automobile.

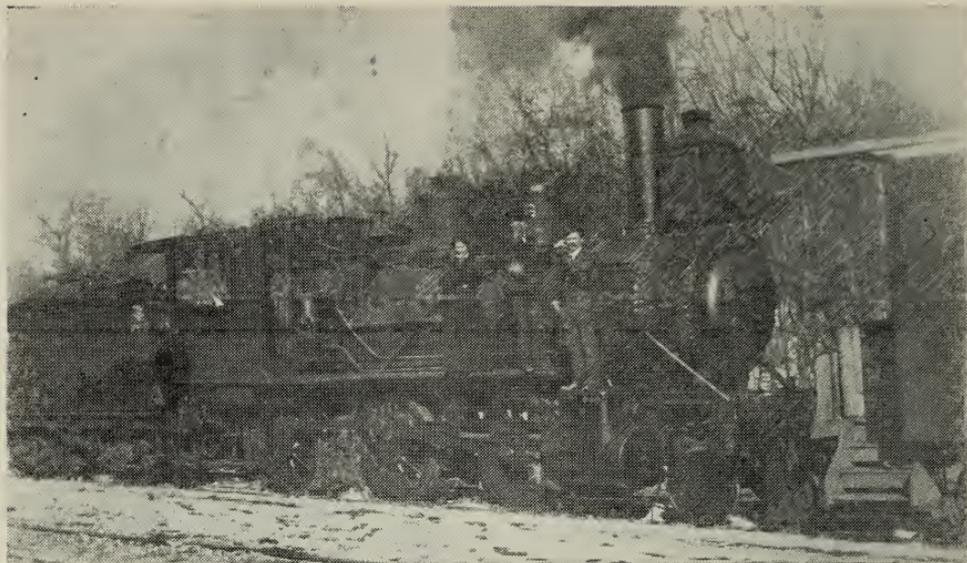


PHOTO COURTESY MR. AND MRS. JAMES SCOTT

Nineteenth Century Locomotive.

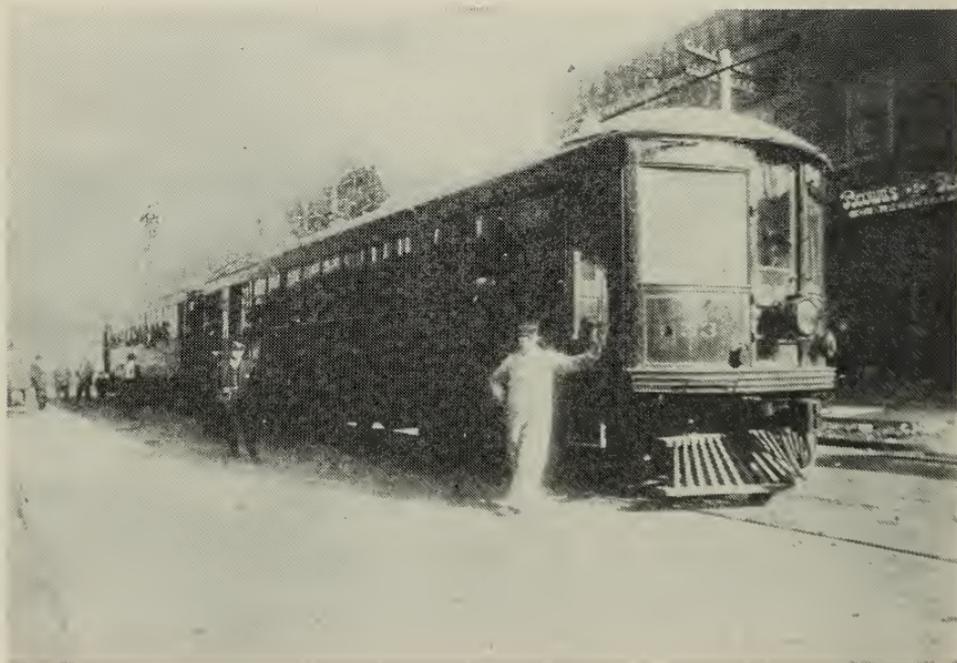
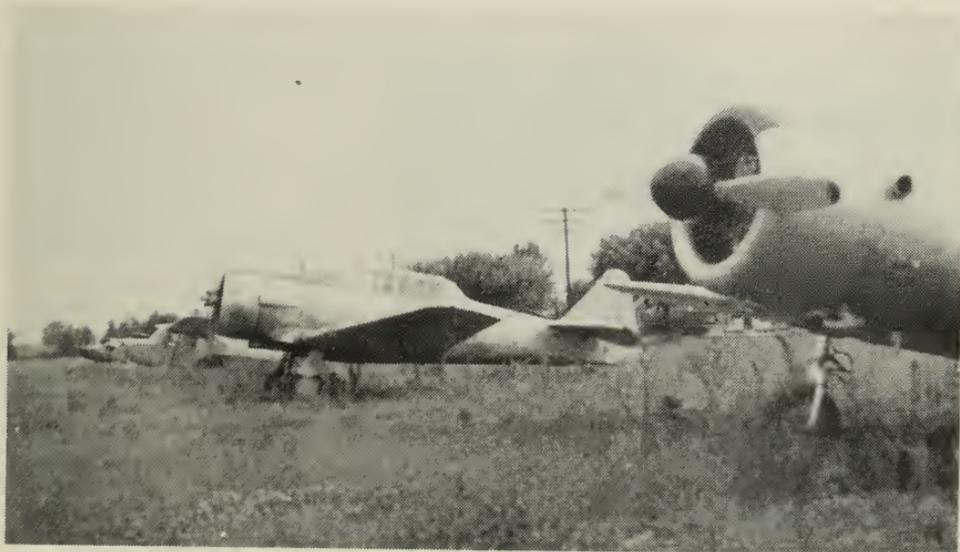


PHOTO COURTESY JOHN SMALL.

Interurban Train of Southern Illinois Railway
and Power Co., running from Eldorado
to Carrier Mills.



1947 Modern Bus of Harrisburg-Dorrisville Bus Line.



Harrisburg Airport, located near Muddy, 1947.

Ferrell Hospital,
Eldorado,
1947.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER



Eldorado Hospital,
Eldorado,
1947.

PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

XI.

Professions Throughout the Years

By Fred Hood

THROUGHOUT the hundred years of independent existence of Saline County, it has been fortunate in having not only a substantial number of professional men and women, but in having those who were respected in their respective fields. There has been no time in the history of the county when it was without those to protect the legal rights of the people, and those to minister to their physical needs.

The first physician to settle in the country, which later was to become Saline County, was Doctor Martin Gillette, who, in 1836, came from Glen Falls, New York, to the area. He settled on the Goshen Road between Equality and Eldorado, a distance of a half-mile southeast of Eldorado. Gillette was a cultured gentleman, and was well read in history and literature. It is reported that, "He gave unusual attention to his patients, and in serious cases, would remain for many days and nights by the bedside performing services of both physician and nurse." He remained in this county practicing his profession until his death.

One of the first physicians to come to Saline County was Doctor John M. Corwin, who moved from Indiana to the Eagle community. About 1857, he moved to Raleigh with his family and there spent the remainder of his life. While living in Eagle community, Doctor Corwin purchased and shipped produce down the Saline River, but his principal source of a livelihood was medical practice. After moving to Raleigh, his daughter, Prudence, married Doctor H. L. Burnett, who studied medicine under Doctor Corwin.

Doctor F. F. Johnson, school teacher and physician, moved to Raleigh, in 1855, to teach the first "free" school, and remained to practice medicine. In 1864, Doctor John C. Matthews studied medicine under Doctor John-

son, and then attended the St. Louis Medical College in 1866. He returned to Raleigh and entered the practice as a partner of Doctor Johnson in 1866. Later, Doctor Matthews was associated with Doctor A. J. Neil, and still later with Doctor H. L. Burnett, and for a while was associated with Doctor J. C. L. Carr, who subsequently moved to Galatia.

In the early 50's, Doctor Valentine Rathbone was a practicing physician in Raleigh, and also ran a drug store. Following the removal of the county seat to Harrisburg, Doctor Rathbone moved his office and drug store to the new county seat.

One of the first physicians to settle in the area, which later was to become the village of Harrisburg, was Doctor Thomas S. Mitchell, who settled in the community about 1849. Soon after this date, Doctor John W. Mitchell was to build a substantial fortune in many lines of business in the county. He donated the ground upon which the Mitchell-Carnegie Library in Harrisburg is constructed, and is sometimes called the "Father of Harrisburg." He aided General Green Berry Raum in promoting the Cairo and Vincennes Railroad, bought tobacco and produce, and dealt extensively in farm land and city property. However, his first love was the medical profession, and until a few years before his death, he enjoyed one of the widest practices of any physician in the county.

In 1859, Doctor S. C. Latham was practicing medicine in Galatia, and Doctor J. F. Latham was practicing in Eldorado. By 1865, Doctor John Poindexter was a physician in Harrisburg, and Doctor Randall Poindexter was practicing in Galatia. An early Eldorado physician was Doctor J. S. Whiting.

At that time, Doctor S. L. Durham was a dentist in Harrisburg, and Doctor Cornelius Baker was a physician,

having his office in the courthouse, and advertising that "He gave prompt attention to all professional calls." Doctor Oskar Kress also was a practicing physician in Harrisburg as early as 1859. In that same year, Doctor Stucker was a physician in Stonefort.

There were two physicians practicing quite early in the neighborhood of Galatia. Doctor Harvey R. Pearce, who later started a sawmill and grist-mill with Moses P. McGehee, was practicing medicine in the Galatia neighborhood as early as 1848. Doctor Pearce later moved to Harrisburg, and for many years ran the Egyptian Hotel. Doctor Jacob Smith also practiced the medical profession in the Galatia area during the same period. These two, together with Doctor Gillette, were the first physicians in the area.

In 1859, Doctor M. D. Robinson was a practicing physician in Stonefort. In that same year, Doctor J. B. Wilson was a dentist in Harrisburg. One of the best known of the early physicians was Doctor S. L. Cheaney. He graduated at the Louisville Medical College, and settled at Independence, where he began the practice of medicine in 1858. He left his practice and served with the Union forces during the Civil War, but returned and resumed in 1866. He later moved to Harrisburg. Doctor Cheaney had what was perhaps the largest practice in the county, and gained renown as a surgeon. Another early physician practicing in Harrisburg was Doctor Joseph R. Baker, who also engaged in farming, and at one time, was a county commissioner.

The seventies brought many other physicians to the county. In 1872, Doctor M. P. Haynes came to Harrisburg to practice. In 1877, Doctor J. P. Chenault began the practice in Harrisburg. Doctor Chenault also was a successful merchant. Doctor N. S. Hudson moved from Marion to Harrisburg in that same year. In 1877,

Doctor E. M. Provine was practicing in Harrisburg, and advertised as an "accoucheur." In 1882, Doctor M. D. Empson began the practice in the west part of the county, in the little community of Hartford, and began an uninterrupted medical career lasting more than half a century. Doctor Empson also developed extensive farming and business interests. In 1885, Doctor W. D. Ezell began the practice. In that same year, Doctor James H. Rose moved to Harrisburg and opened an office. He was very successful, and in 1913, constructed the Rose Building, on North Main Street, now owned by L. M. Hancock and G. H. Mugge. Doctor John H. Lee began the medical practice in Mitchellsville about this time, and later moved to Harrisburg, where he maintained an office in the Rathbone Building in 1879, on the north side of the square. Doctor Lee was the father of John B. Lee, now a vice-president of the Harrisburg National Bank.

In 1879, Doctor J. G. Powell opened a dental office in the Christy and Marsh law office building, and advertised, "Work solicited from abroad. Will be found at all times in his office." Doctor Powell later opened a grocery store on East Walnut Street. Doctor W. S. Swan began the practice of medicine about the same time, in his home at the corner of Main and Walnut Streets, and maintained an office there until his death. Doctor T. J. Ozburn, and Doctor J. M. Beggs, also were practicing physicians about the same time.

In September, 1885, Doctor J. W. Renfro began his medical practice in Harrisburg. He was a graduate of the medical department of the University of Tennessee, at Nashville. He had practiced in Du Quoin before moving to Harrisburg. Doctor Renfro served with the North in the Civil War, and for a time, was surgeon for the Cairo Short Line Railway.

Doctor G. B. Rawlings began practicing in Eldorado in 1896, and advertised that, "Special Attention Given to the Treatment of Chronic Diseases." Doctor Louis N. Parish, son of William H. Parish, the first Saline County lawyer, graduated from the medical college at the University of Louisville, and began practice in Harrisburg. In 1895, Doctor Parish took in as a partner Doctor Joseph V. Capel, who had begun his medical studies in Doctor Parish's office. Later, Capel attended the University of Louisville, and graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in St. Louis, in 1894. He then began practice with Doctor Parish. Both physicians practiced in Harrisburg until their deaths, and Doctor Capel achieved great success in business and banking.

Doctor Samuel J. Blackman began the practice of medicine in Stonefort during this period. He later moved to Harrisburg. Also at this time, Doctor J. W. Whiteaker moved from Johnson County, and opened his office as a physician. Doctor Charles W. Turner graduated from the St. Louis College of Physicians and Surgeons in March, 1898, and in the same year entered into a medical partnership with Doctor Joseph R. Baker, in Harrisburg. Doctor Turner became a most successful practitioner, and later was elected mayor of Harrisburg. In 1896, Doctor John W. Ballance, who was born in Johnson County, graduated from Rush Medical College, and began the practice in Harrisburg. He soon after was chosen surgeon for the Big Four Railroad.

About this same time, Doctor L. McCormack began the practice of medicine in the little settlement of Dorrisville, immediately south of Harrisburg. He later moved into Harrisburg, and served one term as coroner of the county. He was the father of Lee, Guy, and Elmer McCormack of Harrisburg.

In 1896, Doctor George Ledford began practicing medi-

He, in later years, formed a medical partnership with Doctor Green, and for many years, ran a drug store. In 1911, Doctor E. M. Lord, an osteopath, opened an office in the Pruett Building, in Harrisburg, and advertised, "Chronic Diseases and Diseases of Women a Specialty." In that same year, Doctor C. E. Byington and Doctor C. W. Whitley, were practicing dentists in Harrisburg, under the style of Byington & Whitley. Whitley was the son of Marion S. Whitley, a successful trial lawyer of the time. In 1914, Doctor E. S. Barger opened his office as a physician in Dorrisville. At that time Doctor T. B. Roberson was practicing dentistry in Eldorado. He, some years later, was killed in Saline County's first airplane accident. Doctor J. Emil Elder was also a dentist in Eldorado at the time. The same year, Doctor R. L. Whitesides was a practicing physician in Eldorado, in the old office of Doctor Rawlings. At the same time, Doctor H. N. Jarvis and Doctor J. W. Farris were veterinarians in Harrisburg.

In the same period, Doctor D. A. Lehman began the practice in Harrisburg, and specialized in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. Doctor Lehman was the first physician to enlist in World War I, and later, with others, organized the Harrisburg Hospital. In 1906, Doctor E. L. Ozment began practicing in Harrisburg, and was followed in 1910, by Doctor F. H. Ozment, his brother. Edith Scott maintained an office as an osteopath in that year, in her home on West Poplar Street, in Harrisburg. She was a daughter of W. F. Scott, Harrisburg lawyer.

Thomas D. Gregg, who for many years owned a drug store, also for many years practiced his profession of optician. Doctor Charles F. Elder began the practice of dentistry in Harrisburg. Doctor Elder, in later years, was one of the professional men erecting the Clinic Building. In 1914, Doctor C. M. Fuson began the practice of

medicine in Harrisburg. At the same time, Doctor W. McTaggart was a physician and surgeon, with an office in the Capel-Raley Building, on South Main Street. Doctor E. C. Harris, an osteopath, maintained an office in the Thompson Building.

In Carrier Mills, during this period, Doctor J. M. McSparin was a practicing physician, as was Doctor F. S. Davidson and Doctor R. E. Groce. At the present, in Carrier Mills, are Doctor W. W. Martin, Doctor Henry A. Utter, and Doctor G. E. Kachele, physicians, and Doctor John O. Tuttle, dentist.

In this period of the early 1900's, Doctor Francis M. Hart came to Harrisburg from Pope County. His brothers, Doctor Ezra Hart, and Doctor Green B. Hart, physicians, also came to Harrisburg. Doctor G. B. Hart is still practicing here. Doctor Francis M. Hart maintained a partnership with Doctor Charles Walden, also from Pope County, for many years, in the Rose Building.

In Galatia, Doctor Tom Johnson, formerly of Stonefort, studied in the office of Doctor Carr, and took over Carr's practice, after his death. Doctor Johnson practiced in Galatia for many years. Also, in Galatia, Doctor P. D. B. Gratton, and Doctor Auda Garrison, practiced for many years. Doctor Gratton died in 1941, and Doctor Garrison is now physician at the Illinois State Penal Farm, at Vandalia.

In the same period before World War I as when Doctor Lehman began the practice, Doctor A. J. Butner and Doctor R. B. Nyberg began their practice. About this same time, Doctor E. W. Cummins also opened his office for the practice of medicine. Doctor R. G. Bond also began the practice, and opened a hospital at the corner of McKinley and Elm Streets, in Harrisburg. Some years before then, Doctor William J. Blackard, Sr., had begun the practice of medicine in Harrisburg. Doctor R. L.

Kane began practice in 1917, in Raleigh, and, for a short time, was in partners with Doctor A. J. Butner, in Harrisburg. Doctor J. S. Lewis practiced medicine in Harrisburg, in that year, and Doctor C. L. Garris and Doctor S. W. Williams were practicing in Eldorado at the same time.

Doctor Bond sold his hospital to Doctor Joseph C. Lightner, formerly of Pope County, and Doctor Lightner, an outstanding surgeon, achieved great success in the profession. The hospital was known as the Lightner Hospital, and is now owned and operated by Doctor Warren D. Tuttle and Doctor S. H. Frazier. These two purchased the hospital following their termination of army service in World War II.

Doctors Nyberg, Butner, Lehman, and Blackard organized the Harrisburg Hospital and erected a three-story, brick building in the 1920's, at the corner of Elm and Vine Streets. The first three are still practicing with their offices in the hospital, but Doctor William J. Blackard, Jr., has taken the place of his father, now deceased.

Another World War II veteran beginning the practice in Harrisburg is Doctor Thomas R. "Dick" Skaggs. Tuttle is the great-grandson of Charles Nyberg, one of the county pioneers, and Skaggs is the great-grandson of Pryor Lee Skaggs, who operated one of the first tanyards in the county.

Doctor C. J. Estes, born in Mountain Township, in Saline County, also is now practicing in Harrisburg. Doctor Burtis E. Montgomery, who served in World War II in the Navy, is a practicing physician in Harrisburg. Montgomery opened his office in Harrisburg in the '30's, and resumed his practice after his war service. He married Kathleen Taylor, the daughter of Charles A. Taylor, of a pioneer family.

Doctor James H. Lewis, a colored physician of ability, established an office in Harrisburg, in the 1920's, and later started the Lewis Hospital, on East Walnut Street. Doctor Ross, also colored, practiced medicine in Harrisburg for several years in the 1930's.

Doctor N. A. Herrmann, a native of Pope County, began the practice of his profession in Equality, but soon after moved to Harrisburg. In the 1920's, Doctor Herrmann, together with Doctor B. B. Hutton, an eye, ear, nose, and throat specialist, Doctor E. W. Cummins, and Doctor Charles F. Elder, dentist, constructed the Clinic Building, on East Poplar Street, in Harrisburg. Doctor Cummins and Doctor Hutton are now deceased, as is Doctor Elder. Doctor Herrmann yet is practicing in the same location. Doctor G. R. Johnson, Doctor J. J. Klein, and Doctor C. J. Hauptmann, physicians, and Doctor B. G. Funkhouser, dentist, now practice their professions from offices in the Clinic Building. Funkhouser and Hauptmann are veterans of World War II.

In addition to Doctors Whitley and Funkhouser, other dentists at the present, are Doctor J. W. Gaskins, Doctor Charles E. Seten, Sr., Doctor Charles E. Seten, Jr., Doctor B. A. Tate, Doctor E. M. Travelstead, and Doctor L. I. Webb, in Harrisburg. Doctor G. C. Stephens, a son of Doctor J. H. Stephens, of Robinson, practiced the dental profession in Harrisburg from 1896 to the late 1930's, the time of his decease. Doctor E. H. Reel, dentist, practiced in Harrisburg following World War I.

In addition to the early physicians named in Eldorado, Doctor A. H. Beltz practiced there after 1900. An old partnership of physicians consisted of Doctor Frank Johnson and Doctor William T. Johnson, his brother. Both are now elderly, but both are yet practicing. Doctor William F. Johnson, a dentist, a son of Doctor William T. Johnson, is now practicing his profession in Eldorado.

Another dentist in Eldorado at the present is Doctor H. C. Holdaway.

Doctor Samuel W. Latham practiced medicine in Eldorado for many years before his death in the late '20's. Doctor Oscar M. Gibson was a practicing physician in Eldorado until his death in 1922. Doctor W. E. Brann practiced medicine for many years before his death in 1938. Doctor John H. Johnstone practiced his profession between 1935 and 1943, and then moved away. Doctor J. C. Hick, who died in 1933, was an old time physician and business man in Eldorado. He was a brother-in-law of Colonel Chas. H. Burnett, and with him, interested in the development of some of the first shaft coal mines in the county.

Doctor Grover C. Ferrell, and his brother, Doctor J. V. Ferrell, practiced medicine in Eldorado for many years. Doctor J. V. Ferrell is now deceased but Doctor Grover Ferrell is still practicing. Doctor J. V. Ferrell opened the Ferrell Hospital, which is now operated by Doctor Robert V. Ferrell, a son. Doctor N. A. Thompson, a native of North Carolina, is now associated with Doctor Robert V. Ferrell in the practice of medicine. Doctor Neva Skelton, Eldorado's only woman doctor, is a practicing physician there, at the present, with a large practice. Doctor John E. Choisser, a World War II veteran, practices medicine in Eldorado. Choisser is a descendant of Judge Samuel Elder, the first judge of the county commissioners court.

Doctor Frank B. Pearce was one of the successful physicians of Eldorado, and started the Eldorado Hospital. Since his decease, the hospital is operated by his son, Doctor Lee Pearce. Doctor Fred Darnall, a local boy, practiced medicine in Harrisburg from 1930, to his death in 1945.

Doctor Roger Choisser, now in Washington, D. C., a



Lightner Hospital,
Harrisburg,
1947.

PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

Harrisburg Hospital
Harrisburg,
1947.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER



Clinic Building,
Harrisburg,
1947.

PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER.

Lewis Hospital,
Harrisburg,
1947.



PHOTO COURTESY JOHN FOSTER

son of W. V. Choisser, is a Saline County physician, and Doctor Earl Potter is also a native Saline Countian. Neither ever practiced in the county.

Doctor M. E. Haring is now a practicing chiropracter in Eldorado, and Doctor C. L. McKee, and his wife, H. Claire McKee, are practicing chiropracters in Harrisburg. Doctor T. A. West, a chiropracter, practiced in Eldorado from 1926 to 1932, and then moved to Benton, where he now resides.

Harrisburg has optometrists in Charles S. Boicourt, Doctor Margaret Serafine, and Doctor A. O. Steinborn. Doctor W. T. Warford was an optometrist in Eldorado, until his death in 1935, and Doctor L. M. Holland and Doctor Quenton C. Wilson are practicing optometrists there at the present time.

Saline County has been fortunate in having fine veterinarians. At the present, there are Doctor Howard Dean, at Carrier Mills, Doctor James H. Johnstone and Doctor C. Y. Reeder, at Eldorado, and Doctor Maurice Verplank, recently moved to Harrisburg. Doctor R. C. Riegel practiced veterinary surgery for many years in Harrisburg prior to his death, in 1947.

The first lawyer to practice in Saline County was William H. Parish. Parish had moved from his home in Danville to Benton, and in 1847, was requested by the circuit judge to go to Raleigh and assist the clerk of the court in setting up a system for the office. While there, Parish was employed in several law suits, and he decided to remain and open a law office. He was one of the most successful lawyers in the county for many years thereafter. Four of Parish's sons—F. M., John J., William H., Jr., and P. S.—became lawyers, and practiced in the county. Francis M. Parish first opened a law office at Stonefort, later went into the coal mine business, and yet later moved to Carmi, at which place he was elected county judge.

William H. Parish, Sr., for a time, maintained a law partnership with Attorney Charles Burnett at Raleigh. Green Berry Raum, of Pope County, moved to Harrisburg while the county seat was still at Raleigh, and became a very successful lawyer. He formed a partnership with William M. Christy, and retained the connection while he served during the Civil War, in which he rose to the rank of brigadier general in the regular army. Their law office was located on the north side of the square, at the site where the Fashion Palace now is located. Christy was an outstanding trial lawyer, and for many years, one of the leading lawyers in the county.

James Macklin practiced law in Raleigh in the period before the courthouse was moved to Harrisburg, and continued in the practice in the new county seat. In the 1870's, Alfred C. Duff began the practice of law at Galatia, and later was elected circuit judge. During the same period, W. S. Morris, of Golconda, and W. H. Boyer, of Harrisburg, formed a partnership and maintained a law office in Harrisburg. Their office was in the Durham Building, on the square. Morris served in the State Senate for two terms. Boyer came to Saline County in 1878, from Indiana.

The most celebrated law firm in the county was that of Ebenezer C. Ingersoll, and his eloquent brother, Robert G. Ingersoll. E. C. Ingersoll lived at Raleigh, and Robert G. Ingersoll lived at Shawneetown. They maintained a law office in Raleigh in a one-story building, which is still standing on the Musgrave lot, and now used as a garage. Eben Ingersoll moved to Peoria, in December, 1857, and Robert G. Ingersoll followed him in January of the next year. While living at Raleigh, Eben was elected to the State General Assembly, and at the same time, Robert G. Ingersoll was defeated for district attorney.

James M. Gregg was an early lawyer, and in 1879, was in partnership with William H. Parish, in Harrisburg, with an office in the courthouse. F. M. Youngblood, of Benton, and Boen Phillips, of Harrisburg, maintained a partnership law office in Harrisburg, at the time, with their office on the east side of the public square. H. H. Harris was practicing law in the '70's, and after Raum moved to Washington as commissioner of internal revenue, formed a partnership with Christy for a time. W. V. Choisser was admitted to practice law in 1876. He was born in Hamilton County, and served with General Sherman's army in the Civil War. He served as state's attorney from 1880 to 1884, and served several terms in the General Assembly. In 1893, he, together with D. W. Choisser and Marion S. Whitley, formed a partnership under the firm name of Choisser, Whitley & Choisser. The firm later was known as Choisser & Choisser, following the withdrawal of Whitley. D. W. Choisser was admitted to practice in 1892. Whitley was elected mayor of Harrisburg in 1896.

Robert E. Choisser, son of W. V. Choisser, became a lawyer and practiced in Harrisburg for many years. He served three terms as judge of the city court of Harrisburg. He died in 1944. W. V. Choisser had a law partnership with Boyer in 1885, but it lasted only for a few years.

In 1885, John M. Gregg practiced in Harrisburg, and was a United States claim agent. For a time, he maintained a partnership with T. Y. Reynolds, a Mexican War veteran, but who was not a lawyer. Reynolds was a justice of the peace. In that same year, R. S. Marsh and W. F. Scott were in law partnership, and advertised that they did a general law practice.

Albert W. Lewis was admitted to practice in November, 1882. He was elected state's attorney in 1888, and

elected to the General Assembly in 1892. In 1896, he was elected county judge, and in 1904, was again elected state's attorney. He was elected to fill out the unexpired term of Alonzo Vickers as circuit judge, and in 1909, was elected for a full term. He was reelected twice to this office after then.

Acquilla C. Lewis and James B. Lewis, sons of A. W. Lewis, both became lawyers. James B. Lewis, now deceased, served as state's attorney from 1916 to 1920. James B. Lewis, for a short time, was a law partner of G. H. Dorris. Dorris did not follow the practice long, but engaged in farming and real estate operations. Acquilla C. Lewis now is engaged in the practice in Chicago.

In 1896, Albert G. Abney, of Harrisburg, and J. C. Burnett, of Eldorado, had a law partnership. Abney was elected county judge in 1922, but died before his four-year term was completed. John L. Thompson was admitted to practice law in 1886. He formerly had farmed, but studied law under the sponsorship of James M. Gregg and William H. Parish. One of Thompson's sons, Sam, became a lawyer, and served as state's attorney from 1912 to 1916. In 1896, Charles W. Wiedemann was practicing law in Harrisburg. In that same year, William H. Parish, Sigel Capel, and Charles Durfee were in partnership with the firm name of Parish, Capel & Durfee. Capel was admitted to practice in 1892. He was a Civil War veteran, and was elected state's attorney in 1896. He later was appointed to a place in the State Insurance Department by Governor Yates. Durfee moved to Golconda, where he yet is in the practice.

Ownley Furman was admitted to practice in 1896, having moved to the county from Ohio. In 1897, he formed a law partnership with William M. Christy, under the firm name of Christy and Furman. After the death of Christy, in 1898, Furman devoted most of his efforts

to loans and real estate law. R. D. Melton was admitted to practice about this time, but pursued the grocery business for many years. For a time before his death, in the 1920's, Melton opened an office at Galatia, and devoted himself to the practice.

R. S. Marsh, a citizen of Tennessee, came to Harrisburg in 1876. He was admitted to practice law in 1881, and continued in the practice in Harrisburg until his death in the 1920's. Michael Roark, a native of Saline County, moved to Kansas where he was admitted to practice law. He returned to this county, and in 1896, was admitted to practice law in this State. W. F. Scott was admitted to practice in 1883, and moved to Harrisburg the following year. His daughter, Mabel Scott, was admitted to practice law in 1912, and became the only woman lawyer ever in the county. She, at the present time, is a secretary to Supreme Justice Charles H. Thompson, of Harrisburg. It was during this period of the 1880's that S. F. Williford began the practice of law in Harrisburg.

K. C. Ronalds, of Grayville, was admitted to practice law, and moved to Eldorado, in 1900. He served in the General Assembly in the 1905-1907 session, and was instrumental to a great degree in the passage of the Shot-Firers Act, which lessened the hazards in the coal mines. He served one term as county judge, and at the present time, is state's attorney for the county. From 1908 to 1911, he maintained a law partnership with George E. Dodd, of Eldorado. Ronalds, also, at one time was in partnership with D. F. Rumsey. Dodd was admitted to practice in 1906, and for a time, was in partnership with William S. Summers, of Eldorado.

In 1914, R. S. Marsh, C. D. Stilwell, and H. N. Finney were in partnership with the firm name of Marsh, Stilwell and Finney. Stilwell served a term as county judge,

and one term as judge of the city court of Harrisburg. Finney was admitted to practice in 1895, and came to Saline County from Pope County. In 1924, Finney, together with John W. Browning, also a former resident of Pope County, and Oral P. Tuttle, formed a partnership under the firm name of Browning, Finney and Tuttle. The firm name was changed to Finney and Tuttle, after the withdrawal of Browning, who thereafter practiced alone.

Tuttle was admitted to practice in 1911. He served several terms in the lower house of the General Assembly, one term in the State Senate, and at present is the judge of the city court of Harrisburg. About 1916, Tuttle was in partnership with William W. Damron, a former resident of Johnson County. Damron was admitted to practice in 1910, and has served two terms as county judge, two terms as judge of the city court of Harrisburg, and at the present, is a justice of the Illinois Court of Claims, serving his second term.

Charles E. Combe was admitted to practice in 1911, and soon after was taken into partnership with Marion S. Whitley and George M. Miley, under the firm name of Whitley, Miley and Combe. The firm name became Miley and Combe, after the death of Whitley, and in 1936, upon the death of Miley, became Combe and Wheatley. Walter W. Wheatley, a native of the county, was admitted to practice in 1915, and was a veteran of World War I. He died in 1946. The present firm name is Combe and Twente.

John H. Meyer was admitted to practice in 1908. A. E. Somers, of Galatia, was admitted to practice in 1891, and yet is in the practice. He was the first judge of the city court of Harrisburg, and served two terms as circuit judge. He also served one term as state's attorney. William C. Kane was admitted to practice in 1898, and

still maintains an office in Harrisburg, although he has retired from active practice.

Jacob W. Myers, a native of the county, was admitted to practice in 1913. He served one term as assistant state's attorney, and in later years, gave much of his time to the abstracting business, as did P. S. Parish, one of the lawyer sons of William H. Parish.

William S. Summers, of Eldorado, practiced law there all his adult life. His son, Arthur W. Summers, was admitted to practice law in 1920, and until the death of his father, the two practiced together with the firm name of Summers and Summers. Arthur W. Summers was the first judge of the city court of Eldorado. Harry J. Flanders, also a native of the county, was admitted to the practice in 1921. He, for a time, was in partnership with John M. Karns, who was admitted to practice about the same time. Karns now is practicing in East St. Louis, and Flanders is the present judge of the city court of Eldorado.

H. Robert Fowler, following the conclusion of service as a member of Congress from the 24th Illinois district, opened an office in Harrisburg, and formed a partnership with his nephew, Darce F. Rumsey. Rumsey served as state's attorney from 1928 to 1932, and as circuit judge from 1933 to 1945. He is now the senior member of the firm of Rumsey and Dennis. The junior member, Trafton Dennis, was admitted to practice in 1940, and was elected state's attorney that same year. His term of office was interrupted while he served in the navy during the World War.

Charles T. Flota, now serving in the United States Army with the rank of Colonel, was admitted to practice in 1919. He was elected state's attorney in 1924. He is a veteran of World War I. Charles H. Thompson was admitted to practice in 1919, and in 1920, was elected

state's attorney. He served three terms as State Senator, and at the present, is a Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois. He is the first lawyer from Saline County to be elevated to the supreme bench of the State.

Scerial Thompson was admitted to practice in 1924, and served from 1930 to 1933 as an assistant attorney general. He is the senior member of the firm of Thompson and Jones. Glen O. Jones, the junior member of the firm, was born at Raleigh, and was admitted to practice in 1947, following service in the army during World War II.

L. M. Hancock, of Stonefort, was admitted to practice in 1926, and from 1926 to 1928, served as assistant state's attorney. He has served two terms as county judge of the county. George B. Lee, a grandson of Doctor John H. Lee, one of the early physicians, was admitted to practice in 1928, and formed a partnership with Hancock, under the firm name of Hancock and Lee. The election of Hancock to the office of county judge brought about the separation of the firm. Lee served with the army in World War II, and now is a secretary to Supreme Justice Charles H. Thompson. Lloyd H. Melton was admitted to the practice in 1927, and has served one term as state's attorney. Kenneth D. Cummins was admitted to practice in 1927, and served a four-year term as city attorney of Harrisburg.

S. D. Wise, a native of Eldorado, was admitted to practice in 1914. He served a part term as county judge, filling out an unexpired term. Clyde A. Whiteside, a native of Johnson County, was admitted to practice in 1926, and first settled in Eldorado. Later, he moved to Harrisburg, and for a time, was in partnership with H. N. Finney. He served in the navy during World War II, and is now an assistant attorney general.

Alpheus Gustin, formerly a resident of Hardin County,

was admitted to practice in 1910, and yet is engaged in active practice. Don Scott, a native of the county, was admitted in 1936, and has served two terms as county judge. H. R. Lightfoot, from Stonefort, was admitted in 1915, and for several years, was in partnership with Gustin, under the firm name of Lightfoot and Gustin. His son, Lester R. Lightfoot, was admitted to practice in 1941, and is, at the present time, in partnership with his father, under the firm name of Lightfoot and Lightfoot.

Ralph W. Choisser, of Eldorado, was admitted to practice in 1941, and is, at the present time, the judge of the county court. Choisser served in the navy during World War II, and is a descendant of Judge Samuel Elder, the first judge of the county commissioners court. Choisser, for a time, practiced law in Chicago, with the firm of Robert McCormick Adams. Druie E. Cavender, Jr., was admitted to practice in 1947, and now is engaged in the practice in Harrisburg.

In addition to the lawyers who have practiced, and are practicing, in Saline County, there have been several native sons who became lawyers, and who are practicing in other places. John R. Kane, son of William C. Kane, practiced in Harrisburg for several years, and at the present time, is practicing with the firm of Lord, Bissel and Kadyk, in Chicago. Willard B. Gaskins is now practicing in Peoria, as is Louis Bond, the son of Doctor R. G. Bond. Wendell Cable, formerly of Harrisburg, now lives in Peoria, and is an assistant attorney general. Joseph H. Hinshaw heads a successful law firm in Chicago. Willard Cain is practicing in Wheaton, and John Paul Davis is engaged in the practice in Union County, where he has served as state's attorney. Pittman Z. Sullivan, formerly of Harrisburg, now is engaged in the practice in Texas.

Clark H. Miley was admitted to practice in 1928, and is now associated with Harold S. Williams, in Taylorville. Miley is the son of George M. Miley, now deceased, and who was one of the area's finest trial lawyers.

XII.

Organizations of Saline County

By Hettie G. Wells and Daisy M. Seright

ORGANIZATIONS have played an important part in the growth and development of Saline County. They begin to appear at a very early date, and at the present time there are more than a hundred civic, fraternal, patriotic and other organizations, exclusive of those in the churches.

Probably among the very first were the church organizations, the Ladies' Aid, and the Missionary Societies. Today, there are, in almost every church over the county, organizations such as these, not only concerned with the spiritual life in the communities, but actively interested in and working for civic betterment.

In 1945, a Council of Church Women was organized in Harrisburg and Eldorado. These councils are affiliated with The United Council of Church Women. Their purpose is to unite all church women, regardless of race, creed, or color, in fellowship, service and love.

The first Woman's Christian Temperance Union was organized in Harrisburg in 1874. This union now has a membership in the county of one hundred and twenty-five. Its object is to educate public sentiment to the standards of total abstinence, "to train the young, save the inebriate, secure the legal prohibition and complete banishment of the liquor traffic." The work is arranged along departmental lines.

The fraternal orders came next. Records show that the Raleigh Masonic Lodge, Number 128, was the first one chartered, with Larkin M. Riley, the first worshipful master. The charter was received October 3, 1853.

There are now six Masonic Lodges in the county. Harrisburg Lodge, Number 325, was chartered October 5, 1859. Green B. Raum was the first worshipful master and Doctor John W. Mitchell was the first secretary.

Blazing Star Lodge, Number 458, was chartered

October 4, 1865, at Crab Orchard, in Williamson County. The first worshipful master was Benjamin F. Furlong. This lodge met in Crab Orchard until March 10, 1911, and was then moved to Carrier Mills.

Stonefort Lodge, Number 495, was chartered October 3, 1866, with Joseph B. Edmondson as the first worshipful master.

Galatia Lodge, Number 684, was chartered October 1, 1872, and Parker Massey was the first worshipful master.

Eldorado Lodge, Number 730, the youngest in the county, was chartered October 5, 1875. Warner E. Burnett was the first worshipful master.

The largest of the six lodges is the Harrisburg lodge, with a membership of 486. The cornerstone of the Masonic Temple, on the southeast corner of Main and Walnut Streets, was laid on October 4, 1924. This temple was dedicated May 23, 1925, by Richard C. Davenport, who was then grand master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. He was assisted by such prominent members as LeRoy A. Goddard, Louis L. Emmerson, Charles S. Deneen, Owen Scott, and others. The new Masonic Temple in Galatia was completed in 1942, and was dedicated November 14, 1942, by Karl J. Mohr, then grand master, assisted by local and visiting members.

In December 1928, Davenport was appointed grand secretary of the Grand Lodge to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Owen Scott of Decatur. He was elected to that office in 1929 and has been re-elected each succeeding year. In January 1929, the office was moved to Harrisburg where it occupies most of the sixth floor of the Harrisburg National Bank Building. All the business of the Grand Lodge is transacted through this office by its five employees.

In Saline County, there are six active chapters of the Order of Eastern Star, which is the companion or-

ganization of the Masonic Fraternity. Stonefort Lodge, Number 31, is the oldest of these. This chapter received its charter about 1876, although there was an organization several years before this time, perhaps as early as 1872. In the early years of this lodge, the women came to town with their husbands, on Saturday afternoons, and went to Eastern Star meetings while the "men folks carried on the trading."

The Eldorado Chapter, Number 610, was organized in 1908. Miss Emma Matthew was the first worthy matron, and W. D. Upchurch was the first worthy patron. Harrisburg Chapter, Number 671, was organized in 1911. This chapter has had one of its members, Mrs. R. C. Davenport, hold the highest office in the state organization, that of worthy grand matron.

Rising Star Chapter, Number 717, is located at Carrier Mills, and its first worthy matron was elected in 1912. Raleigh Chapter, Number 832, was started in 1920. Mrs. Hal Burnett was its first worthy matron, and Clyde Glascock was the first worthy patron. The youngest chapter in the county was organized at Galatia in 1924, and is numbered 950.

All the chapters of the Eastern Star order in the county were active in helping the war projects in which the state organization took such an active part. Their work was so extensive that a presidential citation was awarded them, and they also were awarded a citation by Governor Green of Illinois. Each chapter in the county contributes its share to the homes that are maintained for members of the state organization—one for incurables at Macon, and one for the aged at Rockford.

The White Shrine of Jerusalem of Harrisburg was chartered in 1920. Saline Chapter, Number 165, Royal Arch Masons, was chartered October 29, 1875. The

Egyptian Council, Royal and Select Masons, was chartered October 26, 1877.

Saline Chapter, Order of DeMolay, was organized in February, 1928, under the sponsorship of Saline Chapter Number 165, Royal Arch Masons. Charles E. Combe was the first "dad" and served in this capacity until 1946, when these duties were turned over to Jack Davenport. There are at present thirty-five boys, aged from 14 to 21, who are active members of this organization.

There are six lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the county. The oldest one, Eschol Lodge, Number 183, of Raleigh, was instituted October 12, 1855. Galatia Lodge, Number 433, is probably the next oldest. Their records were destroyed by fire. Arrow Lodge, Number 386, Harrisburg, was instituted October 12, 1869. In 1882, the building was destroyed by fire and the charter burned. A new charter was issued September 7, 1882. Carrier Mills Odd Fellows Lodge, Number 874, was instituted November 1897. Midway Lodge, Number 942, in Dorrisville, was instituted June 1, 1907. On November 2, 1928, Vera Lodge, Number 551, of Mitchellsville, consolidated with the Midway Lodge. Their present membership is about eighty. Eldorado Lodge, Number 375, was instituted October 13, 1868. The first noble grand was James McClintock. There are five Rebekah Lodges in the county. The oldest is the Harrisburg Pride of Arrow Rebekah Lodge, Number 234, instituted March, 1889. Mrs. S. F. Williford was initiated before the lodge was instituted and a jewel was presented to her, in 1946, for her long membership. Mrs. C. P. Skaggs served as state treasurer in the year 1898.

Mrs. James B. Blackman, of Harrisburg, is the only surviving charter member of Eldorado Lodge, Number 308, which was instituted November 22, 1894. A fifty year jewel was presented to her in 1944. In 1899, she



PHOTO COURTESY ERNEST V. GATES.

Early Group of Eldorado I.O.O.F.



PHOTO COURTESY MRS. WILLIAM BRASHEARS, SR.

Officers Saline Chapter, R.A.M., about 1900.



PHOTO COURTESY AUDIE DEWEY.

Grand Army of Republic Group,
about 1892.



PHOTO COURTESY MRS. WILLIAM BRASHEARS, SR.

First Harrisburg Band.

served as state assembly president and, in 1916, Mrs. Samuel W. Latham, of Eldorado, served in the same office. Thirty-four persons, who have served as noble grand since the institution of this lodge, are now members of the Past Noble Grand Club, which was organized January 27, 1916, to help co-ordinate the lodge work.

The Pride of Midway Rebekah Lodge, Number 679, was issued a charter November 19, 1907. The present membership is 146. The Comfort Rebekah Lodge, Number 48, was instituted January 9, 1900, at Carrier Mills. Raleigh Rebekah Lodge was instituted June 24, 1941.

Cohaset Tribe, Number 425, Improved Order of Red Men, of Dorrisville, was granted a charter May 16, 1911. Fred Hausman, Charles McDowell and R. W. Burroughs have served as state officers.

Juanita Council, Number 91, Degree of Pocahontas, was instituted July, 1907. In 1908, the Dorrisville chapter consolidated with this council. Mrs. Robert Conover was the first Pocahontas. Mr. and Mrs. Conover, Mrs. Pearl Stricklin, and V. E. Pry are the only charter members living. In 1936-37, Mrs. Pearl Stricklin served as the great Pocahontas, State of Illinois.

The Raleigh Royal Neighbors, Number 6665, received its charter October 1910, and a charter was granted to Chapter 5534, Modern Woodmen of the World, at Raleigh, on February 5, 1900.

Saline Aerie, Number 2406, Fraternal Order of the Eagles, was organized in Harrisburg, January 23, 1944. At present they have a membership of one thousand one hundred and fifty.

The Eldorado Eagles Aerie, Number 2480, was organized February 24, 1946 with one hundred and twenty four charter members.

Harrisburg Lodge, Number 1058, of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, was instituted July 18, 1907. The present membership is three hundred and seventy five and has been closed at that figure. H. J. Raley, Past State Exalted Ruler and a member of the Harrisburg Lodge is now a member of the Crippled Children's Commission of the Illinois Elks Association. Doctor C. D. Midkiff served as state president of Illinois Elks in 1927.

Fraternal orders of Saline County have been helpful in promoting projects which have contributed to the welfare of the entire county. The Elks crippled children's program has been an outstanding one. The Eagles, of Harrisburg, have purchased an iron lung which may be used by any one in the county free of charge. The Eldorado Eagles have been very generous in their donations, giving \$25 per week toward a "Teen Town," and helping with the park system and the memorial library. All of the fraternal orders have contributed much to the social, as well as to the civic life of the community.

Patriotic organizations such as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and their auxiliaries, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Boy and Girl Scouts, have been outstanding leaders in the civic and social affairs of the county.

Saline Camp, Number 90, with a membership of forty-six Spanish American War veterans, from Saline, White, Gallatin, Hardin and Hamilton counties, meets monthly in Eldorado. E. T. Burton, of Eldorado, is the present commander. The national organization, which lists one hundred Civil War Veterans that are still alive, also shows 115,000 Spanish American War veterans. There is an average monthly death rate of six hundred.

Every veteran who served during any part of the war

years, and who has an honorable discharge, is eligible for membership in an American Legion Post, whether he served at home or abroad.

These posts did much for veterans when the reconversion from war to peace was being made. After the needs of early years were met, they began to participate, in a large measure, in the life of the community. The Eldorado Post, Number 169, was organized soon after the end of World War I, and granted a charter August 10, 1920. The Marion Oshel Post, Number 364, at Carrier Mills, was organized in November, 1919. The Harco Post, Number 1142, was granted a charter in 1947. The George Hart Post, Number 167, at Harrisburg was chartered August 1, 1920. The K. M. B. B. Post, Number 400, at Stonefort, was first organized after World War I as Miche Richerson Post, but disbanded. It was reorganized February 25, 1946, and named in honor of the following four men who gave their lives—Clifford Knowles, Leo Mitchell, Quentin Bynum and Cecil Buckner. Galatia Post, Number 882, was organized in 1922, and reorganized in 1944. Post Number 394, for negro veterans, was chartered in Harrisburg and is very active.

The 40 and 8 is primarily the social organization of the American Legion. The Eldorado Chapter Voiture, Locale 794, Post 167, is the only one in the county. The rigid regulations keep the members active and the post is limited in membership.

The county organization includes all of the posts, and its purpose is to unify and strengthen the American Legion program.

The American Legion Auxiliary was organized for the purpose of aiding the American Legion in expediting its annual program in the Nation, State, and community. The Auxiliary has since assumed many projects of its

own, but these are all considered a product of The American Legion's effort toward good citizenship and Americanism. The Auxiliary to the American Legion was chartered in Harrisburg in 1923, in Carrier Mills in 1926, in Eldorado in 1928, and in Galatia on January 29, 1945.

On February 14, 1943, The Beasley-Murray Post, Number 3642, Veterans of Foreign Wars was chartered. Qualifications for membership specify that the applicant be a veteran of overseas service in the defense of his nation during a wartime period. Included in the membership of this post are veterans of the Spanish American War, World War I and World War II. The post takes an active part in civic and community projects.

The Military Order of the Cootie is a Veterans of Foreign Wars unit dedicated to providing recreation and entertainment for hospitalized disabled buddies, local chapters being known as "Pup Tents." The CaHaMa Pup Tent consists of Veterans of Foreign Wars members from the posts of Cairo, Harrisburg, and Marion.

Shortly after the Beasley-Murray Post was organized, the Auxiliary was founded and received its charter May 2, 1943. Included in its annual projects are child welfare work and the support of local civic and community groups, and their programs.

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution has two chapters in Saline County. The first to be organized was the Michael Hillegas Chapter, in Harrisburg. It was organized on March 25, 1927, and was named for Michael Hillegas, the first treasurer of the United States, and an ancestor of Mrs. Will R. Taylor, of Harrisburg. Mrs. Taylor was the first regent of the chapter.

One of the members of this chapter, Mrs. D. A. Lehman, of Harrisburg, has served an elective term as

registrar of the State Society, and she, and several other members of the chapter, have served in various appointive positions in the State Society. This chapter numbers among its members, Mrs. Mary Stewart Holtzclaw, of Rosiclare, who is one of the remaining few real granddaughters of a Revolutionary War soldier.

The Samuel Elder Chapter, Daughters of American Revolution, of Eldorado, was organized on October 17, 1938, and was named after Judge Samuel Elder, one of the founders of Eldorado, and an ancestor of several of the chapter members.

The purposes of the Daughters of American Revolution are three-fold: Historical, to perpetuate the memory and the spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence by marking, acquiring, and preserving historical sites, material, and records, and by encouraging historical research by awards in schools; Second, to promote the development of an enlightened public opinion by supporting entirely two mountain schools, and assisting in the support of fourteen other schools; Third, to foster patriotic citizenship and love of country.

The two Saline County chapters of the organization have done outstanding work in furthering the programs of the National Society, for the benefit of the people of the Nation, and in Saline County.

The first Saline County Chapter of The American Red Cross was organized May 28, 1917. J. W. Davis was elected president, H. A. Murphy, vice-president, Miss Edith Scott, secretary, A. L. Berry, treasurer and Doctor C. W. Fuson, George T. Gaskins, B. D. Grace, C. D. Stillwell, G. G. Mugge, Orval Ferrell, and A. C. Lewis, directors. At the present time, it is under the jurisdiction of the Midwestern Area of the American Red Cross, with headquarters at St. Louis. There are seven-

teen members on the board, and they are organized and prepared to take care of any crisis that might arise.

The Reverend Emanuel Breeze, of the Presbyterian Church of Harrisburg, led a scout troop here prior to the year 1918. Records do not show that the troop was affiliated with the national organization, but a definite program was carried on similar to the scout program of today. In 1935, the scout program was revived. At the present time there are nine scout troops in the county—three in Harrisburg, two in Eldorado, two in Carrier Mills, one in Beulah Heights, and one in Galatia. These troops are sponsored by civic orders and churches. Several years ago, a Cub Scout Pack was sponsored by the Presbyterian Church, under the leadership of Frank P. Skaggs. Recently, this pack has been reorganized by the same sponsor. The Lions Club at Carrier Mills also has sponsored one pack.

At the present there are nine Girl Scout troops in Harrisburg, and one Brownie troop, which includes girls too young for the scout program. Carrier Mills has three Girl Scout troops, including one troop for colored girls.

During the "Gay Nineties," the social life of Harrisburg was in tune with the trends sweeping the nation in the organization of clubs for women. Perhaps the ancestor of present clubs was the Fresh Air Club, organized in the early nineties, with a program for health and social activities, a forerunner of the elaborate sports programs for the women of today. The membership included the mothers and the grandmothers of the present generation. Mrs. J. W. Coker and Mrs. G. G. Mugge are members living in Harrisburg today.

The pace set by the "Fresh Air" club continues to our day in delightful parties, entertainments, and cultural pursuits. The back ground of our present social life

reflects the charm and hospitality of the "Old South," from where we have gained so many of our people and customs.

At the present time, there are three federated Woman's Clubs in the county: The Harrisburg Woman's Club, The Eldorado Woman's Club, and the Eldorado Junior Woman's Club. These three clubs are united in a county organization which meets twice a year.

The Harrisburg Woman's Club was organized January 12, 1904, at the home of Mrs. M. S. Whitley, at the corner of Church and Skaggs Streets, the house now occupied by Mrs. W. I. Reynolds. The following were present: Mrs. James B. Blackman, Mrs. A. C. Clark, Mrs. John Coker, Mrs. Taylor Ferguson, Mrs. J. T. Gaskins, Mrs. Nelia Gregg, Mrs. Thomas D. Gregg, Mrs. John B. Lee, Mrs. G. G. Mugge, Mrs. J. J. Parish, Mrs. C. P. Skaggs, Mrs. W. F. Scott, Mrs. Chas. A. Taylor, Mrs. Harry Taylor, Mrs. Emma Thompson, and Mrs. Herman T. Towle.

At this first meeting, plans were made to establish a free public library. Today, the Mitchell-Carnegie Library stands as a monument to their wisdom and zealous efforts.

The ideals that inspired these women in plans for a library has been the spirit of the club for the past forty-three years. This spirit is manifested in such efforts as the beautification of the cemetery, the sponsorship of an Annual Clean-up week, furnishing and maintaining a hospital room for charity cases, aid given the city schools in their health program, student loans, the planting of memorial trees and highway beautification, and many other projects. A number of these activities have been taken over by civic authorities, but other important projects have replaced them.

During the two world wars, on the occasions of two

major floods, and in many other critical times, the women have faithfully responded to civic needs.

The Eldorado Woman's Club was organized October 3, 1913. Charter members were Mrs. Lela Burnett, Miss Grace Cape, Miss Madge Elder, Miss Freda Farmer, Miss Ida Goe, Miss Agnes Goe, Miss Aileen Organ, Miss Lula Ramsey, Miss Ruth Rodman, Miss Kathleen Whitley, Miss Romaine Whitley, and Miss Virginia Whitley.

The objects of the organization were "to insure mutual culture, counsel and sympathy; to stimulate development and self-improvement; to promote good fellowship among its members, and unity of action in case of need, and the promotion of higher social and moral conditions."

These ideals and purposes have been upheld through the years. Fine literary and cultural programs have been carried out in the meetings. During the time when there was no organized relief by the State or Federal governments, much of this work was carried on by the Woman's Club.

During World Wars, I and II, the club gave freely of its time and money to help in every phase of war work. Club records show the purchase of supplementary readers for the Eldorado City schools, and wheel chairs and wagons for the crippled children's school, helping to establish the public park and play ground, and the purchase of markers for the city streets; organizing the Junior Woman's Club, sponsoring Girl and Boy Scout troops, and many other important projects.

The Eldorado Junior Woman's Club was organized in 1926. The purpose of the club is to "train its members for intelligent participation in community and club life, and to further the social interests of the young people."

The Saline County College Club was organized in 1923, as the Saline County branch of the American Association of University Women, "to unite women of different

colleges and universities for mutual acquaintance, for practical educational work in the community, and for cooperation with the program of the Association in its general work." Encouragement was given to seniors in High School to continue their education at the college level, and a vocational committee gave practical aid to girls in choosing colleges and courses. To help college girls in a financial way, a loan fund was established. Several girls and boys have received these loans. In recent years, the club has contributed to the health program of the schools. After a few years, affiliation with the Association was discontinued, and the name changed to College Club, so that more women were eligible for membership. The club has been a decided asset to the cultural and social life of Saline County.

In 1919, a small group of women organized a club to study Shakespeare's writings. In 1921, an organizer for the Delphian Study course merged this group, and some fifty women, into a local Delphian Society. The course of study was completed in six years and some, who wished to continue to study, re-named the group the Tuesday Study Club. The club became inactive during World War II.

There are seven men's civic organizations in the county: four Lions clubs—one each at Eldorado, Carrier Mills, Galatia and Harrisburg; two Rotary Clubs—one at Harrisburg, and one at Eldorado; and one Kiwanis club, at Harrisburg.

The Harrisburg Rotary Club was organized February 4, 1918. C. A. Taylor served as an early district governor. The Eldorado Rotary Club was organized July 23, 1923. The objects of these clubs are "to encourage and foster the ideals of service, the development of acquaintance and an opportunity to serve high ethical standards in business and professional occupation, the application

of these ideals to business and community life, and the advancement of international understanding and good will by the application of such ideals."

Both clubs have contributed extensively to the civic, social, and business enterprises of the county, and the application of their mottos, "Service above Self," and "He profits most who serves best," has helped to bring success to their many undertakings.

October 20, 1922, Kiwanis International granted a charter to the Harrisburg Kiwanis Club. The objects of Kiwanis International, among others, are to "encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships, to promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business and professional standards, to develop by precept and example a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship, to render altruistic services and to build better communities." The Harrisburg Kiwanis Club has carried on these objects by its work with boys and girls, with underprivileged children, and public affairs. Work with boys and girls continues to be one of the important phases of the work of this club. Annually, it assists many organizations devoted to youth work.

The important part played by individual members of this organization, in the civic and public life of Harrisburg, is evidenced by the large number of Kiwanians who have served on every important civic committee.

The Lions International organization is the largest group of civic clubs in the Western Hemisphere, with a membership of over one-half million. There are four clubs in Saline County. The Eldorado Lions Club was organized November, 1922. Two of their members, T. Leo Dodd and J. E. Raibourn, have served as district governors. Eldorado Lions' record of service to their community has been one of outstanding achievement,

in which was the establishment of the Lion's park, assistance in securing a new fire truck, new Eldorado street signs, and in numerous other ways.

The Carrier Mills Lions Club was organized in 1937, as was the Galatia Club. During the war, interest died out in Galatia, and that club was reorganized in 1944. The Harrisburg Club is the youngest in the county, but shows promise of being very active and very valuable to community life. It was organized January 1, 1947.

The Chamber of Commerce of Harrisburg grew out of the Merchant's Committee and the service clubs. It was organized as a Chamber of Commerce in 1939, and is affiliated with the State, as well as the National, organizations. Its purpose is to encourage new business projects and to assist in all civic undertakings.

On March 10, 1911, the P. E. O. Sisterhood organized Chapter Z, the 26th in Illinois, at Harrisburg, with eleven charter members. Four of the charter members, Mrs. Homer Collier, Miss Kate Harris, Mrs. Charles A. Taylor, and Mrs. P. S. Parish, still live in Harrisburg. Two others, Mrs. Fred Baumer and Mrs. C. D. Stilwell, reside in Florida. The P. E. O. was organized in January, 1869, at Iowa Wesleyan College, Mount Pleasant, Iowa, as a college secret sorority, and while it has severed its connections with the college campus, it has retained its educational and cultural interests. It has accumulated a loan fund nearing one million dollars and has assisted eight thousand girls in securing a college education. It owns and operates Cottey College, at Nevada, Missouri. It has built a Founders Memorial Library at Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Chapter Z has contributed generously to all these projects, and has helped twenty girls attend college. Its participation in philanthropic work in Harrisburg has been both practical and generous.

Mrs. Chas. E. Combe has served on the state board for four years and as state president. She has served ten years as chairman of the state history committee and is also a member of the executive committee, representing the seventy southern counties.

The Delta Alpha Chapter of the Delta Theta Tau was installed in Marion, Illinois, on February 13, 1929. The sponsoring chapter was from Carbondale.

Delta Theta Tau is the largest non-academic, philanthropic organization of its kind in the United States. It now has 151 active chapters and 56 alumnae groups.

The Harrisburg Chapter assists in maintaining a mountain school in Brinkley, Kentucky, and has contributed to various projects undertaken by the National Sorority during the war. It has helped in the community wherever needed, often in cooperation with other organized social agencies. They have purchased two oxygen tents, which can be used free of charge by anyone in Saline County.

One of Harrisburg Chapter's members, Mrs. Harker Miley, served as national president, for the year 1945-1946.

There are two chapters of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority in Saline County. The Beta Kappa Chapter was organized in Harrisburg, September 24, 1932, and the Beta Sigma Chapter, at Eldorado, in November, 1937.

This sorority is an international organization founded April 30, 1931, for the purpose of "giving young women in search of further cultural advantages and expanded social contacts an opportunity to unite in fellowship with other young women who also desire to develop their cultural natures by definite courses of study with the ultimate aim of making an art of living."

These chapters have cooperated in civic and community projects.

The Xi Chi Chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi was organized in Harrisburg, on October 1, 1942, and the Xi Alpha Lambda, in Eldorado, in June, 1946. These are Exemplar Chapters, and only those who have been members four years, and completed the four program books, are eligible for membership.

The Nu Phi Mu is a Junior affiliate of the Eldorado Beta Sigma Phi and was organized in March, 1947.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority is a National organization formed to recognize outstanding work of women educators and for the purpose of furthering work in that field. Through this organization, scholarship funds are established for use by worthy individuals who wish to do advanced educational work.

Psi Chapter was organized in Harrisburg, April 6, 1940, with a membership of sixteen. This was the first chapter to be organized in Illinois south of East St. Louis. Its members come from practically every county in the southern part of the State. They now have thirty one members, and are sponsoring a new chapter whose membership will be drawn from the extreme southern counties of the State.

On February 15, 1940, the Saline County Council of the Parent-Teachers Association was organized, with seven units and the Harrisburg Council being represented.

During the seven years of county council activity, inter-school fellowship has developed. Problems common to all parents and teachers have been discussed in free and open round table fashion.

Saline County has been represented in most of the State conventions, and also in the one and only National convention held in the Middle West.

In 1881, there was a Saline County Agricultural Association. W. E. Burnett was president, and F. M. Pickett, secretary. In that same year, fifty-one acres of ground

were purchased where the present fairgrounds are now located. Six years later, this organization met with financial difficulties and lost its fairgrounds. On October 19, 1910, a charter was granted the Harrisburg Fair and Park Association. The incorporators were Ralph S. Towle, C. E. Byington, W. V. Rathbone, M. B. Gaskins, and Dora Vinson. This organization obtained title to the old fairground properties and continued until July 9, 1923, when the present corporation was organized, under the name of Saline County Agricultural Association. The original incorporators of the present organization were W. V. Rathbone, Dora Vinson, T. J. Patterson, George O. Davenport, and Arthur Franks. The purpose of the present corporation as stated in its charter is—

“For the purpose of holding and conducting agricultural fairs and expositions in Saline County, Illinois, and of stimulating and developing in connection therewith all branches of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and household science and educational uplift along all lines of community welfare, and providing various forms of amusement and entertainment therewith, not for pecuniary profit.”

In 1946, ninety per cent of the stock of the present corporation was taken over by ten business and professional people of Harrisburg, and one from Vienna. They are: G. Hudson Mugge, president, Luke Barnhill, vice-president, L. M. Hancock, secretary, John W. Towle, treasurer, Leroy Barham, J. D. Barter, Harry Dorris, Paul Endicott, Bruce Polk, Paul Powell, and W. B. Westbrook, directors.

Records show that, as early as November 29, 1879, there was a farmers organization in Saline County, which was known as The Grange. This county organization met every three months and the officers and members were made up of representatives from the

seven community Grange organizations from all over the county. The Saline County Farm Bureau has succeeded this organization. The Saline County Farm Bureau was organized in 1917, "to promote and foster the social and economic interests of persons engaged in agriculture, and to encourage, promote and foster co-operative organizations for the benefits of its members." A farm adviser is employed who cooperates with the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in its program of extension education and farm studies, and who works with farm leaders in establishing such organizations as 4-H clubs and Dairy Herd Improvement associations.

The Home Bureau is a professional organization for home makers and provides for its members an educational program in home economics, made available through the Extension Department of the University of Illinois, and the United States Department of Agriculture. The Saline County Home Bureau organization was started in 1918. Harrisburg, Long Branch, Galatia, Harco, (Brushy), Stonefort, Carrier Mills, Raleigh, Eldorado, and Cottage Grove units were all organized the first year. Of these, Harrisburg and Cottage Grove are the only ones that have continued throughout the entire time. Raleigh now has a unit, but it is not the original one as it was discontinued in 1922, and started again in 1939. The others in the original group are not in existence now even though they have made more than one attempt to remain active. At the present time, there are 447 members making up twenty-one units throughout the county, and more communities are participating in this work now than ever before. There is a colored unit in Harrisburg, and according to the records, it is the second colored unit to have been started in the community. The first one was organized in 1920, and remained active

until 1927, when it was disbanded. The present one was started in September, 1946.

4-H clubs for the girls in the county are sponsored by the Home Bureau. These clubs give instruction in all phases of life in the home and community. This year, there are twenty-three clubs for girls in Saline County. One of these is composed of colored girls, and is accounted the only one in the State of Illinois.

Rural Youth groups are an outgrowth of the Farm and Home Bureaus. Saline County has one very enthusiastic group consisting of fifty members.

The Saline County Home Bureau Garden Club was formed in 1946, and now has eighteen members. The Saline County Sewing Club, organized at the same time, now has fifteen members. Both are sponsored by the Home Bureau.

The Saline County Garden Club was organized in September, 1928. It became a federated club in October, 1937. The organization was brought about through the efforts of Mrs. Fred Patterson, whose interest and love for flowers prompted her to get together the original group of women to form a garden club. At first, there were no officers, and no president. A definite need arose for officers as the club grew larger. When the club was organized, it was under the Home Bureau, and the name given it of The Saline County Home Bureau Garden Club. Recently, the name has been changed to the Saline County Garden Club. The group has grown from the small gathering met to organize to a total of seventy-three in 1947.

Special projects have been the planting of shrubbery around the Harrisburg City Hall and sowing seeds and planting flowers in the ugly sections of the city. Numerous shrubs have been planted in the Township Park as a part of an annual project. Each year, a

planting is made—partly new, and partly the replacement of shrubs destroyed or killed during the year immediately preceding.

The Evergreen Garden Club, in Harrisburg, is an outgrowth of the Saline County Garden Club. The late Mrs. S. M. Farrar was the leader in the movement to start this club. It was federated in June, 1947, with eighteen charter members.

The National Civil Air Patrol was organized on December 1, 1941. It was followed by the Saline County Civil Air Patrol, which was organized in January, 1944. Dean Hill, of Harrisburg, is the Flight Leader for this area. Its purpose is to "train cadets, promote interest in flying, and act as liaison between the Army Air Force and Civilians." The Egyptian Pilots Association, composed of pilots in this area, meets regularly once every two weeks for social purposes, as well as for the promotion of interest in flying.

It thus is seen that organizations and associations, both for men and women, were started immediately after the first settlers moved into the territory which was to become Saline County. Although at first, churches and schools served the needs of the residents for association with each other in the normal activities of life other than those connected with earning a livelihood, the population of the area had not grown to very substantial proportions before the people realized the necessity for other and additional avenues of social and community expression. It can be seen that organizations for the development of moral and philosophical improvement, for community betterment, the alleviation of distress, and those means definitely calculated and intended to make homes better, communities more progressive, and to furnish inspiration and example for future generations, have been the organizations finding the most fertile

field here. That these social purposes have been served well in Saline County is shown conclusively by the history of the county, and from the results of organizational efforts manifested throughout all the other phases of the county's progression from pioneer settlements in the forest to a well-balanced industrial and agricultural county in the Twentieth Century.

XIII.

During Eight Wars

By Scerial Thompson

THE migration of pioneers from the East, and the Southeast, to the Ohio Valley, and across into Southern Illinois, began within a few years after the Revolutionary War. There were no residents in the area, later to become Saline County, at the time of the Revolution, and consequently, the records, of Revolutionary War veterans connected with the county, show the soldiers came into the territory after the war's conclusion. These men, and the others who were not veterans, were familiar with conditions of war. They had experienced the hardships that arose from war. Their teaching had been that of the arduous times of fighting small battles in the mountains of the South Atlantic seaboard, or the mountains of Pennsylvania and Virginia. They were not strangers to Indian warfare. They knew what it meant to force civilization westward, and to forcibly grasp a livelihood out of the wilderness.

The first, perhaps, of the Revolutionary War veterans to die in Saline County, was John Rector. He was engaged in surveying the township lines in this part of the Northwest Territory, and was killed by an Indian, while working at his surveying duties, in what is now Rector Township, in Saline County. His companions buried him on the spot, under a cedar tree, and then, methodically, set down in their records, a surveyor's technical description of the location of his grave. Other Revolutionary War veterans buried in Saline County are Reuben Bramlett, Malachi Hereford, Thomas Hamilton, Lewis Howell, and William Roark. A monument, erected by Michael Hillegas Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, stands on the public square in Harrisburg, carrying the names of these soldiers, except that of Rector.

Research into the matter of records of the service of

the men of Saline County, or before 1847, the west half of Gallatin County, discloses that for many years, there were no Illinois records whatever of any service before the Civil War. The organization, in 1874, of the "Veterans of the Mexican, Black Hawk, and Florida Wars," aroused considerable interest in the matter, and, in 1879, the General Assembly added a section to the general appropriation bill authorizing the expenditure of five hundred dollars to send a clerk to Washington, to transcribe all the records of the services of both volunteer and regular soldiers from Illinois in the Black Hawk and Mexican Wars. Governor Shelby M. Cullom appointed Colonel Ferris Foreman, of Vandalia, a veteran of the Mexican War, to go to Washington on the errand. Colonel Foreman did so, but the Adjutant General refused to permit such a transcript to be made. This was remedied when Robert T. Lincoln, son of Abraham Lincoln, became Secretary of War. Governor Cullom visited the Secretary in Washington, and upon solicitation, Lincoln had the rolls transcribed, and delivered the data to the Governor.

In considering the War of 1812, and the Black Hawk War, it becomes necessary to examine again the peculiar conditions existing in the Illinois Territory, and particularly in Southern Illinois. The appearance of steamboats on the Ohio River following the voyage of the Orleans, in 1811, and the increased rate of migration from Ireland and Germany to the Illinois Territory, dating from 1810, made necessary the establishment of more homes in the virgin land in the area. This westward force met head-on with the remaining Indians in the region, and the resistance of those Indians was encouraged and abetted by the British, who based their operations at Detroit. This interference by the British in the Indian reception of the white settlers had continued without

interruption after the end of the Revolutionary War.

The British sent agents among the Indians to foment resistance, and furnished guns and ammunition to harass the settlers. At this period, the early migrants were interested but little in the affairs of the Eastern seaboard, and the interference of Britain with the shipping of the infant Republic made no impression on the western pioneers. Before the War of 1812 came near, the West was not concerned about a war with Britain. It was only when British activity among the Indians became more far-reaching that the West clamored for war. As the Indian menace became alarming, so the desire of the West increased for a war against the English.

As the threats of the Indian depredations became serious, Governor Edwards sent spies among the Indians, and learned that the Indians were elated over a determination to carry on a desperate war against the frontiersmen. Edwards called upon the Governor of Kentucky to send a regiment of men to march to Kaskaskia, and protect the settlers. Throughout 1811, English emissaries kept up their work of arousing the Indians against the whites, and encouraged by their promises, Tecumseh conceived the plan of a great confederacy to make war on the United States, until the Indian lands were restored to them. Tecumseh's attack on General Harrison, and his ultimate defeat, on November 6, 1811, gives us the first record, even though minute, of the participation of Saline County men. Captain Isaac White, for whom White County was afterwards named, commanded a company of Saline County men in that battle. Captain White was killed in the battle, and we have no record of the names of the Saline County men he commanded.

When war was declared by Congress against England,

in 1812, Kentucky raised seven thousand troops, under the command of General Hopkins and Colonel Russell, who were directed to the assistance of the Illinois and Indiana Territories. Governor Edwards had, several times during 1811, recommended to the Secretary of War that he permit the enlistment of one or more companies of Rangers, and the Congress passed an act permitting the organization of ten companies. These were organized into the 17th United States Regiment, under Colonel Russell, but it does not seem that more than one company was enlisted out of the Illinois Territory. Several independent companies of cavalry were recruited to defend the lower Wabash area, among them being a company organized by Captain Thomas E. Craig, of Shawneetown. Captain Samuel Whitesides, and Captain William B. Whitesides, commanded companies of Territorial Militia at the time.

The most common means of defending the settlers at the time was by the construction of blockhouses. A system of these blockhouse forts was stretched from the Illinois River to Kaskaskia, thence to the Gallatin Salines. Two of the blockhouses were in the Jourdan settlement, in Franklin County. The main fort was named Fort Russell, and was situated about one and one-half miles from Edwardsville, and named after Colonel Russell, the Kentucky Indian fighter in command. There can be little doubt that the Coleman Brown blockhouse, near the present site of Eldorado, was one of this system of blockhouses, as it was on the main Kaskaskia Trail from the Salines to the east side of the Territory.

The war experience of this area consisted of defending this system of forts, and carrying the war to the Indians in the north part of the Territory. Colonel Russell's regular army troops, the several companies of in-

dependent cavalry, and the territorial militia comprised the entire fighting force in the Territory.

An account of the war during this period would not be complete without scrutinizing and commenting on the names of some of the soldiers, whose names are common to the Saline County area at the present. While the records available do not show these men definitely to have lived in this part of the lower Wabash territory, undoubtedly, this was their home. A first lieutenant in Captain Samuel Whitesides' company was Titus Gragg, (or Greig); Henry Taylor was an ensign, Azor Gragg, (or Greig), was a sergeant, and Harmon Gragg, was a corporal. Joseph Ferguson, John Gragg, Samuel Lee, Joseph Lee, Walter McFarling, and Wm. Pruitt were privates, in this same company of independent cavalry. Captain Jacob Short's company of riflemen contained John Eastes and Andrew Bankston. Captain Willis Hargraves' company of Mounted Volunteers included David Trammel, a spy, Thomas Trammel, Thomas Boatwright, James Trammel, and Gillam Harris. James McFarland served in Captain Absalom Cox's company of Militia, and Israel Robinson served in Captain James B. Moore's company. Captain Phillip Trammell commanded a company of Mounted Riflemen, and they guarded supplies shipped from Shawneetown to Fort Russell, from October 5, to October 31, 1812. All these men served during the year 1812, and these names are familiar ones in present day Saline County. It is unfortunate, indeed, that more complete details of the service of these men in the War of 1812, are not available.

War did not touch again the Saline County area until the spring of 1832, when Chief Black Hawk, notwithstanding the treaty of June 30, 1831, re-crossed the Mississippi, and commenced his march up the Rock River Valley, with about five hundred warriors on horseback.

On April 16, 1832, Governor Reynolds called for a thousand mounted volunteers from the central and southern parts of the State. Many men from the Saline County area volunteered. All of them served under Brigadier General Alexander Posey, of Shawneetown, in the First Brigade.

These volunteers, in the Black Hawk War, entered service on May 15, 1832, and served until August 12, 1832. Most of them engaged in the support given by General Posey after Colonel Dement and fifty soldiers were ambushed on June 26, 1832. Everyone is familiar with the impetuous chase of a few Indians by Dement's men, and the fact that Black Hawk, with three hundred warriors, surprised them in ambush, and sent them scurrying back in confusion. General Posey was stationed some fifty miles away, and it was to him, and his volunteers from Egypt, that a quick message was sent for aid.

Among the men from the Saline County area serving, were William Pankey, a first lieutenant in Captain David B. Russell's company. Also in Russell's company were Thomas Pickering, Stephen S. Mitchell, (who later founded Mitchellsville), both sergeants; Robert Mitchell, a corporal; and Matthew Abney, Josiah Blackman, William H. Gaskins, Thomas Gulley, Wm. G. Hutchinson, Timothy Ingram, Henry Pierson, and Lewis Stiff, privates.

Attached to Captain Russell's company, but a part of Captain Archilaus Coffee's company, were Samuel Karnes, William Choisser, and John Gardner, sergeants; and privates John Karnes, James Karnes, George Karnes, William Stricklin, John Upchurch, Thomas Upchurch, and Jonathan Upchurch. Others, in Coffee's company, were Daniel Botright, first lieutenant; Willis Stricklin, second lieutenant; Wiley Roberts, John Rhyon, and David A. Grable, corporals; and James Hawkins, William

Rhyon, Hamilton Gasaway, David Carney, William Garrett, and Henry Stricklin, privates.

Samuel Westbrook served in the company of Captain Joel Holliday; and in Captain Harrison Willson's company, were Horatio Coffee, a corporal, and Hiram Burnett and James Baker, privates. Hiram Burnett was a resident of the Raleigh neighborhood, and, afterwards, circuit clerk of Saline County.

In the company of Captain John Bays were privates William M. Cummons, John Elder, William Giles, Garret Garner, James McCaslin, and James Pruit.

The Congress passed an act declaring a state of war with Mexico on May 11, 1846. At the same time, the Congress appropriated ten million dollars to carry on the war, and authorized the President to accept fifty thousand volunteers. In order to benefit from the availability of river transportation in sending the troops to the war front, most of these soldiers were enlisted in the West and the South. Illinois was called on for three regiments of infantry or riflemen, and the pay, with all allowances, fixed at \$15.50 per month for a private. The Illinois Militia then being in a bad state, Governor Ford issued a call for thirty full companies of volunteers of a maximum of eighty men each, to serve for twelve months, and with the privilege of electing their own company and regimental officers. Seventy-five companies responded but four regiments were all that were accepted for Mexican service, and forty-five companies recruited in enthusiasm were compelled to remain at home. One of the companies accepted was Company G, of the Third Regiment. The regimental commander was Colonel Ferris Foreman, of Vandalia, and the company commander was Captain Michael K. Lawler, of Equality. It is thought all of the soldiers from the area now Saline County served in Lawler's company.

The Third and Fourth Regiments served together and started their entire service in the division of General Patterson. They marched from Matamoras to Tampico, after having been enrolled at Alton, and sent to Mexico by boat. They were placed under the command of Brigadier General Shields, and three companies of them took part in the descent on Vera Cruz on March 14, 1847. Later, the Third and Fourth took part in the Battle of Cerro Gordo, and gained great credit for their bravery. General Shields was severely wounded leading his troops in that battle, and Colonel Foreman was cited for his exceptional bravery under fire.

The muster roll available shows that Captain Lawler's company was enrolled at Alton, on June 29, 1846, and discharged at New Orleans, on May 21, 1847. Unfortunately, the roll does not give the exact address of each soldier, and it has become necessary to secure corroborative evidence from other sources in order to list those from the Saline County area, who served in this company of infantrymen of Captain Lawler.

William Stricklin was a second lieutenant in the company. Timothy Ingram and Alfred Karnes were sergeants. Ingram had served in the Black Hawk War. Among those listed as privates were David P. Baker, Alfred J. Bramlett, Attallas Choisser, Edmund Choisser, Jacob Cummings, Wesley W. Gaston, John W. Ingram, Daniel B. Karnes, David B. Karnes, James B. Karnes, Albert Sisk, Benjamin Sisk, Nathaniel Stiff, William J. Skelton, Jonathan G. Stricklin, Lewis Stricklin, Henry Taylor, Thomas Y. Reynolds, Stokely Weaver, and Stoke-ly Vinson, and included three others who perished in the service. James M. Cain died at Metamoras, John McCaslin died at Vera Cruz, and John Powell died at Metamoras. David B. Karnes was discharged at Metamoras because of disability.

W. D. Tanner, later of Eldorado, served in the Kentucky infantry, and R. W. Sherrod, later of Harrisburg, also served in the infantry. John D. Bramlett, of Eldorado, served in Company H, Fifth Illinois Infantry.

Following the discharge of this company of infantry, Captain Lawler, on August 13, 1847, organized a company of cavalry, at Shawneetown, which was sent to Mexico for service by the way of New Orleans. It had one skirmish with Mexican cavalry at Horcasita, on December 1, 1847, and after the end of the war, was used to guard government trains in Texas. It was discharged at Shawneetown on October 26, 1848.

There were not many men from this area in the cavalry company, but on the roll, we find the names of William Baker, Charles Berry, Sanford Bramlett, James B. Davis, Robert Gaston, William Gates, Willis Y. Pennell, Isaac Reynolds, Thomas Y. Reynolds, and David H. Roark.

Strangely enough, it was almost ten years after the end of the Civil War before the Mexican War Veterans formed a veterans organization. On February 20, 1873, a national organization was formed under the name of "National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War." On September 23, 1874, there was formed the "Illinois Association of Veterans of the Mexican War," and on September 14, 1875, the name was fixed at the "Illinois Association of Veterans of the Mexican, Florida, and Black Hawk Wars." Colonel Ferris Foreman, the old commander of the Third Regiment, was the leader of the organization for many years. The 10th Annual Reunion was held at Carmi, on September 19 and 20, 1883, and at that time Thomas Y. Reynolds, John W. Ingram, Benjamin Sisk, William Stricklin, R. W. Sherrod, and W. D. Tanner attended. Reynolds attended the reunions

often, and at Springfield, at the 16th Reunion, in 1889, was elected assistant secretary.

The outbreak of the Civil War, in 1861, found Saline County, like the other counties in Southern Illinois, with a great amount of confusion. The use of slaves—or indentured negro servants which was, for all practical purposes, the same—at the salt wells was not unknown. The area was farther south than the Mason-Dixon Line. A great many of the early settlers came from Tennessee, the Carolinas, and other States with Southern leanings. It was only natural that the turmoil of the times should be more pronounced in Egypt than in places farther north. The fact that a majority of Saline County people joined whole-heartedly in the war effort at the time was due to the patriotic integrity of the leaders of Saline County. Unquestionably, the sentiment of Saline County was that the Union must be preserved; it was not that the people were abolitionists. There was nothing unusual in the situation that many people of the county believed in slavery, and were not in favor of the war.

Despite this condition, Saline County substantially filled its quotas for the war. The quota for 1861 was 257; for 1862, it was 176; the next year, it was 274; in 1864, it was 197; and in 1865, it was 381. The total quota was 1285 men, and the county was credited with 1280 enlistments. Living in the county at the time were 1692 persons subject to war service. Despite the divided loyalties, a greater percentage of the persons subject to call served in the Civil War from Saline County, than did in the period of World War II, the only other war of comparable length of service.

There were nine companies, in seven different Illinois regiments, recruited largely from Saline County. Company F, of the 6th Cavalry, was recruited mainly from

Saline, and Company K, of the same unit, came from Saline, Gallatin, and Hamilton counties. In Company F, Cressa K. Davis, William G. Sloan, and James H. Pearce served as captains. William H. Dove and William L. Mitchell served as first lieutenants, and James A. Roark and Alexander Barnes served as second lieutenants. Jarvis Pearce was quartermaster sergeant, and Theodore Kowalsky, Geo. William Newell, and Axel Nyberg were sergeants. Noah Williford, George W. Blackman, and William O. Tate were corporals. William A. Combs was a bugler in the company, and Lofton Price, of Harrisburg, was farrier. Thomas Stiff was wagoner, and with a few exceptions, all the privates in Company F were from Saline.

Company K, 6th Cavalry, had as one of its captains, Dorastus L. Grimes; Jesse B. Wilson was a first lieutenant, Cornelius Baker and Richard E. Oliver were second lieutenants. John M. Baker was first sergeant; Robert L. Lansdale and John D. Riley were corporals; Amos Dailey was wagoner; and Thomas H. Gentry was the blacksmith of the company. Approximately one-third of the privates were from Saline.

Company E, of the 29th Infantry, was composed partly of Saline County men, and William H. Parish, Raleigh attorney, was its first captain. He resigned after a short service, and was succeeded by William W. Burnett, also of Raleigh. Captain Burnett died, on April 6, 1862, and was succeeded by Captain John P. Mitchell. Richard M. Burnett became captain of the company, on January 21, 1865. William Choisser, Richard M. Burnett, and Sherbune H. W. Irwin were first lieutenants, and John L. Roberts and John R. Irwin served as second lieutenants. Joseph Bramlett and Halis Granville both were corporals, and both died in service.

The 31st Infantry was organized at Cairo, by Colonel

John A. Logan, and mustered in September 18, 1861. Company B was recruited mainly from Saline County. The first lieutenants from Saline were Thomas J. Cain, Sterne W. Forgy, Joseph Kuykendall, William H. Largent, and William J. Dillard. George W. Youngblood, Robert Lewis, William Gaskins, and John J. Dunn served as second lieutenants.

Company G, of the same regiment, also mainly came from Saline County. Willis A. Stricklin, Simpson S. Stricklin, and Monroe J. Potts served as captains. Larkin M. Riley and William S. Blackman served as first lieutenants. Benjamin Sisk and John W. Stricklin served as second lieutenants; Robert A. Johnson was a sergeant, and John B. Sewell served as corporal.

Company E, of the 56th Infantry, was recruited mainly in Saline, Williamson, and Gallatin Counties. This regiment was organized at Shawneetown in 1861, and Green B. Raum, was third colonel when the company was organized. He, later, was promoted to brigadier general, and served brilliantly throughout the war. Company E had as captains, Henry T. Webber and William E. Webber, both of Galatia. D. B. Gratton, Josiah Joiner, and Hansford Dudley served as first lieutenants. Elisha Dillon and William L. Barker served as second lieutenants.

Company E, of the 110th Infantry, was raised mainly in Saline County. Its captains were George E. Burnett and Willis A. Spiller, both of Raleigh. Charles Burnett served as first lieutenant. Richard J. Smith, of Raleigh, served as second lieutenant. Francis M. Scott was first sergeant; Cornelius R. Evans, William Boldin, and G. G. Coffee were sergeants; W. H. H. Whitlock, A. D. Dejournette, John R. Coffee, Cornelius Rhine, Mercer Blanliew, Joab Simmons, Charles T. Sutton, and William

C. Baker were corporals, and practically without exception, all the privates were from Saline.

Company F, of the 120th Infantry, was recruited in its entirety from Saline County. William Roark was captain. Benjamin H. Rice and John W. Fitts were first lieutenants; Zepheniah Phillips and Abel O. Hill were second lieutenants; William H. Clark, Lewis Stricklin, and Presley D. Dollins were sergeants; John Hutcheson, Hugh J. Slaton, Andrew J. Sisk, Silas P. Hill, John M. Ward, George W. Clark, William S. Blackman, and Lafayette D. Riley were corporals. Joseph B. Harris and James A. Nolen were musicians, and John Farmer was wagoner. This company was raised principally in Harrisburg.

Company K, of the 128th Infantry, was raised along the west county line, and from Saline and Williamson Counties. Josiah Pemberton was captain, Samuel R. Upchurch was first lieutenant, and Samuel H. Pemberton was second lieutenant. All were from Galatia. This company existed for less than five months, and was unfortunate in its service. Remnants of the company were placed in the 9th Illinois Infantry. The company was organized, on November 4, 1862, and mustered out at Cairo, on April 4, 1863.

There were quite a few others from the county who served in different units, but the greatest number of Saline County men were in the companies and regiments named.

The men from Saline County who served in the Spanish-American War were divided, roughly, into two classes: Those who enlisted in 1898, and served in Cuba; and those who enlisted in 1899, and served in the Philippines. This war was exceptional in its connection with Saline County in that there were no officers from Saline, and no separate company was recruited in this county.

The 9th Illinois Volunteer Infantry was organized at Springfield, and contained several Southern Illinois companies. One company came from Shawneetown under Captain O. P. Townsend, who remained in the army after the war, and later became a brigadier general. One company was recruited at Elizabethtown, under Captain R. F. Taylor; another from Benton, under Captain R. Z. Hickman; and yet another at McLeansboro, under Captain Campbell. Mainly, those Saline County men who served in the Cuban campaign, served in the 9th, and in one of the companies named. Following the Cuban campaign, regular United States Volunteer regiments were organized, and quite a few men from the county—both those who had served in Cuba, and those who had not—enlisted for the Philippine campaign.

Joseph N. Hobbs, Frederick Ritch, Jacob Willis, Geo. F. Whitley, Doctor F. B. Pearce, and Henry Devillez, of Eldorado, served in the 9th Illinois Infantry, as did J. W. F. Davis, R. D. Stanley, Charles Deisher, and John E. Vinyard, of Harrisburg, and Jess Kingston, Thompsonville, Charles Gardner, Saline Mines, and Frank E. Brown, Stonefort.

John Banfield, of Harrisburg, John T. Groves and John R. McClendon, of Eldorado, and Louis E. Collins, of Galatia, served in the 38th U. S. Infantry. Frank Chamness, of Harrisburg, and A. W. Oglesby, of Eldorado, served in the 32nd U. S. Infantry. James A. Devillez, J. M. Johnson, Jasper Johnson, James B. Clark, Alfred S. Willoughby, and Joseph H. Wright, of Eldorado, served in the 30th U. S. Infantry, as did James N. Foster, of Muddy, Virgil Puckett, of Carrier Mills, and Charles E. Roper, of Harrisburg.

Ross G. Putnam, of Eldorado, served in the 29th U. S. Infantry, and Oscar Duncan, of Carrier Mills, and Pearl Ledford, of Harrisburg, served in the 13th Cavalry.

Other Saline County men serving were Frank Ramsey, Eldorado, in the Marine Corps; Ed T. Burton of Eldorado, and Chas. O. Ryan, Galatia, in the 1st Cavalry; T. C. Brumbly, Harrisburg, in the 161st Infantry; John F. Henehan, Eldorado, in the Navy; Herman Jones, Galatia, and C. H. Wiley, Harrisburg, in the 4th Illinois; Henry Libby, Harco, in the 2nd Nebraska; and Joseph D. Mitchell and D. C. Robinson, Eldorado, and James W. Wright and George W. Dorris, Harrisburg, in the 3rd Kentucky. The 3rd Kentucky Infantry was organized just across the Ohio River from Southern Illinois.

William E. Smith, Eldorado, served in the 4th Artillery; A. H. Sefried, Carmi, served in the 7th Infantry; George Stiff, Harrisburg, in the 15th Infantry; Ibor V. Hall, of West End, in the 18th Infantry; Hezekiah Medley, of Eldorado, in the 2nd U. S. Infantry; Harvey Moore, Harrisburg, in the 4th Illinois; Frank Lee, Harrisburg, in the 1st Arkansas; Clarence Turner, Eldorado, in the 6th Missouri; Michael Ure, Harrisburg, in the 22nd Kansas; and Archie Shumaker, Harrisburg, in the 1st Field Artillery.

The 4th Illinois was mustered out at Salem, Illinois, and the 9th Illinois was mustered out at Camp Sheridan, where some of the men re-enlisted in the 30th U. S. Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Philippines. The 29th, 30th, 32nd, and 38th were U. S. Volunteer Infantry regiments.

There have been three separate companies of militia in Saline County, at three different times. In June, 1917, Company E, Illinois National Guard, was organized at Harrisburg. E. H. Largent was captain, Z. T. S. Leitch was first lieutenant, and the Reverend Emmanuel Breeze was second lieutenant. The company was a part of the 9th Regiment, Illinois National Guard. The roster was completed on July 2, 1917, and the company had sixty-

eight members enrolled. It soon was called out for training at Camp Springfield, but saw no war service other than guard duty on one occasion while stationed at Springfield.

Just before the outbreak of World War II, on December 4, 1940, a company of Illinois Reserve Militia was organized, and remained in existence from 1940 to April 1, 1947. An armory building was rented in Harrisburg and a regular training program followed. The group was designated Company M, and was called out for guard duty once at the fluorspar mines in Hardin County, and twice for flood duty on the Mississippi.

Following the disbandment of the Reserve Militia company, a regular National Guard unit was organized in Harrisburg. It has been designated Company L, 3rd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment, 44th Division. The 130th Regiment, during the last war, was a part of the 33rd Division, and made an enviable service record. Company L has not yet been enrolled to its total strength, but efforts are being made to insure its permanency, in order to secure the construction of an armory building in Harrisburg.

When the United States declared war on Germany and the Central Powers, on April 6, 1917, there was an immediate response of fervent patriotism throughout the nation, and this also was true in Saline County. Senator Sam W. Latham, of Eldorado, on April 18, introduced a bill in the State Senate asking that Congress be petitioned to pass a law for compulsory military service. Patriotic programs were given by the Harrisburg Woman's Culture Club, and other city and county organizations. Hatred directed at Germany rose to fever heat.

The patriotic reactions of the people of the county, during the next four months, are worth consideration, and comparison with the reactions during the similar

period of World War II. In this initial period of World War I, the word "slacker" quickly came into the language. People observed their neighbors for acts or omissions indicating a lack of observance of patriotic duty. Those of German descent were suspected. Partisan political criticism was considered detrimental to the war effort, and severely criticized. Rumors of disloyalty flew thick and fast.

A beggar passing through Wasson was assailed for his statement criticising the war. A traveling salesman, calling on stores in the county, was discharged by his employer for making remarks complimentary to Germany. A man was struck down in the streets of Eldorado for bragging on Germany. Spies were suspected to be in Saline County, and the Secret Service agents were called into the county. A fist fight nearly was generated on the public square in Harrisburg over a derogatory remark about the American flag. The Illinois National Guard was posted to guard the bridge at Cairo, and one soldier shot a man without delay when the harmless fellow failed to stay away from the bridge.

Coal mining was the one large and principal industry in the county, and there were several thousand coal miners living here. Coal was needed to win the war. There was some dissatisfaction among the men over wages and working conditions, and when the American flag was raised over O'Gara Mine No. 10, at Eldorado, some of the miners refused to work. Frank Farrington, President of the Illinois Miners Union, called on Governor Frank O. Lowden, and discussed the probability of German influences being exerted to arouse the miners and harm the war effort.

These occurrences were more properly manifestations of the restless energy of a united citizenry searching for means to prove their loyalty, than evidences of substan-

tial opposition to the prosecution of the war. Enthusiasm and fervor soon leveled off to a sane, diligent, and industrious pattern, and the coal miners' local unions passed resolutions in favor of every effort to win the war, and went forward to phenomenal records of coal production.

The first volunteer spirit of the people was demonstrated when eleven Saline County doctors took the medical examination for enrollment in the armed forces. They took the examination at Mount Vernon, on April 30, 1917. On May 3, 1917, Doctor D. A. Lehman, of Harrisburg, and Doctor R. L. Kane, of Raleigh, were accepted, and Doctor Lehman, called to duty soon after, became the first Harrisburg physician to enter the army.

On May 4, 1917, Miss Frances McIntyre, volunteered for enrollment in the aviation school of the Army Aviation Corps, and became the first woman applicant for service from the county.

On May 13, 1917, H. E. Hubbard and H. W. Gustin, of Harrisburg, became the first applicants for enrollment in the Officers Training Camp. The people were asked to save tin cans because of the imminence of a shortage of tin, food production was stressed, and the nation, including Saline County, girded itself for war.

The Federal Government proceeded to raise money for the prosecution of the war, and the First Liberty Loan drive began. Miss Kathryn Capel of Harrisburg, daughter of Doctor J. V. Capel, became the first applicant for the purchase of a Liberty Bond. On June 2, 1917, the Saline County Army Exemption Board was named by Governor Lowden, upon recommendation of Representative Oral P. Tuttle. Charles F. Richardson, Doctor R. B. Nyberg, and W. V. Rathbone, were named. Nyberg was the medical member, and Rathbone was named secretary. Nyberg entered the service, and was

soon succeeded by Doctor J. V. Capel, and Richardson was succeeded by Doctor G. C. Stephens. Rathbone, Capel, and Stephens remained on the board during the remainder of its existence.

The first registration under the "draft" law was held on June 5, 1917. The total registration of those males between 21 and 31, in Saline County, was 3143. Harrisburg had 1231; Eldorado, 928; Carrier Mills had 296, and the others were scattered in the remainder of the county. From the time of the opening of the First Liberty Loan, to June 18, 1917, Saline County people subscribed to bonds to the amount of \$149,150, of which Harrisburg residents subscribed to \$73,150. At that time, Saline County had a population of 33,777.

The first drawing of names for war service was held, on July 24, 1917, and the first four numbers called, affecting Saline County men, were the numbers of Harry Golden, Ivan Craig, Abner B. Walters, and Bertis Berry, all of Harrisburg. The quota for the first call out of Saline County was fixed at 341, and the board decided to call 682, or twice that number, for examination. The first one-third of these men were called to appear for examination on August 8, 1917, and examinations proceeded at a rapid rate. In the meantime, on August 3, 1917, Will L. Dorris, Jr., was accepted in the Army Aviation Corps, and became the first Saline County man to enter aviation.

The first contingent of Saline County's selectees to report for transportation to Camp Taylor, Kentucky, departed over the Big Four Railroad, on September 5, 1917. The group contained seventeen men: George F. Mick, H. C. Lewis, Leo B. Reed, Dee Small, Alsie Hancock, Inglis M. Taylor, Leo McGehee, Harry Collier, M. D. Nesler, Arthur Lewis, Louis Wiedemann, Nelson Morris, Robert W. Parish, Frank Lockwood, John J. Parish,

Harry A. Rann, and Will P. Dabney. A great celebration was held on the public square in Harrisburg, an American flag was presented to the group, and Judge A. W. Lewis, the father of one of the contingent, Attorney John J. Parish, father of two, and Harry Taylor, father of one of the group, together with Attorney George M. Miley, made patriotic speeches. The tenor of the fervent speeches was to attack the slackers, and praise the devotion and sacrifice of the men who were leaving to defend their country.

Twenty-six soldiers from Saline County were killed in action, or died of disease, in World War I. The first to give his life was Charles P. Joiner, of Rudement, who died of disease, at Camp Taylor, on January 16, 1918. William R. Harper, of Harrisburg, a Marine, was the first Saline County man to be killed in action. He lost his life on June 13, 1918.

Fifty-five men of Saline County were wounded in World War I. The first man wounded was Tony Pavelonis, of Harrisburg, who enlisted on April 15, 1917, nine days after war was declared. He served in Company K, 18th Infantry, and was wounded on February 25, 1918. He was a private, first class, and was discharged from service on May 23, 1919. Three of the men were wounded on two separate occasions. Frank J. Burnham, of Eldorado, who enlisted on February 28, 1917, five weeks before war was declared, was wounded on May 26, 1918, and again wounded on October 9, 1918. He was discharged on June 4, 1920. James F. Jenkins, of Eldorado, enlisted on the day war was declared, April 6, 1917, and was wounded on April 30, 1918, and again wounded on November 9, 1918,—the latter time, just two days before the Armistice was signed. He was discharged on March 27, 1919. David A. Reynolds, of Mitchellville, entered service on February 22, 1918, and was wounded

on July 30, 1918, and again wounded on October 3, 1918. He was discharged on November 5, 1919.

After war broke out in Europe, in 1939, it was obvious to most thoughtful Americans that, sooner or later, the United States would be drawn into the conflict. Consequently, the Congress enacted the Selective Service Act providing for compulsory military training. Saline County performed its full duty in the matter of volunteer service in setting up the Selective Service machinery, and the processing of the manpower in the county for war service.

Saline County was divided into two Selective Service districts. Number One was composed of Harrisburg and Carrier Mills townships. Number Two comprised all the remaining area in the county, including Eldorado. The Number One board had its office in Harrisburg, and the Number Two board had its office in Eldorado. Fred G. Burnett was secretary, and Amos J. Doom was chairman of Board Number One, which was appointed October 16, 1940. Corliss Carrier was the third member of the original board. H. C. Lewis, Cecil Pulliam, and John R. Harris served at a later date. Everett Stricklin, clerk, and Anna Poulos, Beatrice Fife, and Dorothy Renshaw, assistant clerks, were the compensated personnel of Board Number One. Doctor B. E. Montgomery, who later served in the Navy with the rank of lieutenant commander, was the first medical assistant of this board.

Siegel B. Hardy, chairman, W. O. Reynolds, secretary, and Arthur W. Summers, comprised the volunteer personnel of the first Board Number Two. Later, Willie Robinson, Allen Murphy, and Phillip Upchurch served as members of the board. Cecil C. Simpson, clerk, and Marguerite C. Watson, Lorene Gates, Nadyne Finley, Opal Lee Hausser, and Annalou Hedger, assistant clerks, were compensated personnel of this board. Later, Sebe

J. Kelly and Opal Lee Hausser served as clerks. Doctor J. V. Ferrel was the first medical assistant of this board.

The first registration was held on October 16, 1940, for those males between 21 and 38 years of age. The second registration was held on July 1, 1941, for those who had reached the age of twenty-one following the last registration. The third registration was held on February 16, 1942, and was for those between the ages of 20 and 45, who had not previously registered. The fourth registration was held on April 27, 1942, and was for those between the ages of 46 and 65. The fifth registration, for those between 18 and 20, was held on June 30, 1942, and the sixth, and last general, registration was held on December 11, 1942, and was for those young men who had reached the age of eighteen following the last registration. After that date, each young man registered when he reached the age of eighteen, and there were no more national general registrations.

The first WAVE to volunteer from Saline County was Doris Green, Harrisburg, the daughter of Walter A. Green, who enrolled in 1943. The first WAAC to volunteer from Saline County was Mary Funderok, of Harrisburg, who enrolled in the same year.

The laborious work of assisting registrants to fill out their questionnaires, of aiding in preparing appeals, making out requests for deferments, and the other details incident to administering selective service required much volunteer work by persons in public positions who were available at all times. Attorneys Don Scott, Scerial Thompson, Harry J. Flanders, Walter W. Wheatley, Lloyd H. Melton, K. C. Ronalds, and H. N. Finney were the first persons appointed on the Registrants Advisory Board. In the later years of the war, others were added to this list.

There were 4882 persons registered at Board Number

One, and 4189 registered at Board Number Two. Out of this registration, 2141 registered in Number One entered the service, and 1661 registered at Number Two entered the service.

The first drawing of numbers under the Selective Service Act was held on October 29, 1940. Out of the numbers drawn, 114 numbers were held by Board Number One registrants, and 110 numbers were held by Board Number Two registrants—a total of 224 in the county. The first number drawn was number 158, and was held by J. Cecil Sullivan, of Harrisburg, in Board Number One, and by Earl Orval Lane, Eldorado, in Board Number Two. At the time of the drawing, there were 2232 registrants in Number One, and 2001 registrants in Number Two.

After the drawing, it became necessary for volunteer enlistees to have the permission of their Selective Service Board to enlist, even though their number had not been called. The first volunteer enlistees in the county, after the drawing, were, in Board Number One, Bernie Devar, aged 22, son of K. D. Devar, Harrisburg, and in Board Number Two, Leon Perkins, Eldorado.

In World War II, there were seventeen soldiers and sailors who were killed in civil accidents, or died of disease. The first one was Everett Crabb, of Harrisburg, who, on February 2, 1941, was killed in a plane crash while on his way home from the West Coast on a furlough. The first to die after the actual declaration of war was Edward Yohe, of Ledford, who, on September 14, 1942, fell under a train at Camp Crowder, and was killed.

There were one hundred eighteen Saline Countians killed in action, or who died in prison camp, during the war. The first of these was James Alexander, of Harrisburg, who was killed in the Philippines, on January

22, 1942. William Lee Bozarth, of Harrisburg, was the next. He was at Corregidor, and was never heard of after the fall of that fortress. On the same date, Steve Smith, of Harrisburg Star Route, died at Camp O'Donnell, then used as a Japanese prison camp. About the same time, Charles R. Street, of Eldorado, who was serving on the U. S. S. Destroyer Sims, was killed in the Battle of the Coral Sea. On May 8, 1942, James R. Whitlock, was lost in a plane, and although reported safe in Turkey, was never located, and later was declared officially dead.

Two Saline Countians were captured soon after hostilities began. Captain Thomas D. Patterson, of Harrisburg, had been stationed at Fort Stotsenburg before the war opened, and on December 25, 1941, went to Bataan, with his commanding officer. He was captured at Bataan, and after serving in several Japanese prison camps—the last one being Camp Fukuoku, in Japan—was released on September 11, 1945, after V-J Day. Phinas Allen Law, of Eldorado, was serving in the Marines, and was captured at Guam, and was reported captured in June, 1942. He, too, was released after the end of the war.

A War Loan offering was made by the Secretary of the Treasury immediately after the outbreak of the war, but this was not an organized drive with county allocations. The second war loan offering was a drive, and was in May, 1942. Saline County had a quota of \$581,000. The county quota was easily met. There were five other loan drives. The quota of Saline County for the third, in September, 1943, was \$1,547,000; for the fourth, in February, 1944, was \$1,810,000; for the fifth, in June, 1944, was \$1,563,000; for the sixth, later in 1944, was \$1,360,000; and for the seventh, in May, 1945, was \$1,224,000.

The first Saline County Price and Rationing Board opened offices in Harrisburg, immediately after the outbreak of war. The first board consisted of C. E. Combe, R. C. Davenport, and Oscar L. Turner. Quite a few men and women of the county, at one time or another, served in one or more phases of the rationing of different commodities during the war. Eventually, a compensated personnel was employed at the rationing office, and a substantial part of the community business depended upon the regulation and control of this body.

Automobiles and automobile tires were frozen in December, 1941, and thereafter could be purchased only upon certificates issued by the Rationing Board. Sugar was placed on the rationing list in April, 1942. Coffee was rationed on Thanksgiving Day, 1942. On February 10, 1943, shoes were added to the list. Point rationing of the principal canned goods began on March 1, 1943. Meats were added to the rationing list on March 28, 1943. The rationing and regulation by the Washington offices of the Office of Price Administration reached such absurdities as to prohibit the slicing of bread, but even the traditional seriousness of the American people in war time could not withstand this, and this order was countermanded soon after, with considerable confusion and embarrassment.

It has been noted that during other wars, particularly the Civil War and World War I, patriotic fervor in Saline County was noticeably articulate. Eloquent speeches were made, and the county's war effort in each instance grew to enthusiastic diligence and sacrifice. Slackers were condemned, and outspoken patriotic sentiment was commended. To a great extent, this manifestation was absent in World War II.

Space in the world had been shortened by rapid means of transportation, and time had been lessened by Twen-

tieth Century means of communication. News quickly was disseminated by papers, magazines, and the all-powerful radio. People discussed and debated each changing condition in the world without lag or delay. Saline County people well knew early that war was inevitable, and were under no misapprehension about the factors involved. The Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor was, to some extent, an anti-climax. Selective Service, Lend Lease, U. S. destroyers to Britain, and the other events subsequent to 1939, sufficiently informed the people of the county about a gradual descent into open war. Not only that, the people of the county also realized that war was waged in newer and more deadly manner. Cavalry had been displaced by mechanized troops. Air power had become a lethal arm of the Nation's forces. Complete mobilization of all military and civil resources, including all man and woman power, was the natural consequence of the trend of centralized regimentation rampant throughout the world, and a tragic necessity for the United States, if they were to endure.

It followed, then, that Saline County people accepted the new type of total war without eloquence or demonstration. There were no Logans to resign from Congress, and enter the field of battle; no Robert G. Ingersoll to add physical courage to his magnificent eloquence; no Green B. Raum, William H. Parish, and others to furnish glamour by leading thrilling charges in battle. War had become a cold, practical, machine-like matter of regimented precision. Saline County farmers, as in other wars, expended herculean efforts to increase agricultural production, but in this war, there was much more. Housewives saved fats, oils, tin, and other essentials. Saline County women trudged to war plants at Crab Orchard, Evansville, and other nearby sites. Business curtailed its uses of automobiles, and pleasure uses were elimin-

ated. Saline County became a unit in a great, integrated battle plan, conceived for an entire nation, and carried out by a unified people. War had no glamour for the people of Saline County. It was a desperately important and necessary job, to be finished as quickly as possible.

It must not be understood that Saline County people felt they were simply automans, blindly to follow orders from the Washington nerve-center of the mighty war effort. Rather, it was a comprehension of the people that unified strength would accomplish the job at hand much sooner than divided effort, however patriotic the individual effort might be. Saline County, during World War II, possessed some forty thousand people. It represented a cross-section of population which, to a great degree, was typical of the Nation. Their ideals and determination can be no better expressed than they were by Captain Clyde Webb, commanding a Flying Fortress in the South Pacific, who just before his last trip, on which he lost his life, wrote his loved ones at home. But twenty-five years of age, Captain Webb symbolized the patriotic endeavor of Saline County and the Nation. He wrote:

“Independence Day, and here I am, fighting for that same independence again against a different country, and with a different weapon, air power. I know now what Washington meant when he said that we would always have to fight for our freedom. . . . Freedom will always go to those who are willing to fight and suffer for it. If we, as a nation, are willing to suffer, and die, and kill for that freedom, nothing will ever take it away from us. Unless we are, we will lose this war and the freedom which we are fighting for. I can see now why wars will never cease . . .”

The same spirit that actuated the first soldiers of the Revolutionary War to come to this area and settle, to

begin the first founding of Saline County, has not perished. It has lived and flourished throughout eight wars. It remains in our people today. This sentiment, these ideals, this devotion to freedom, all always have been the bulwark of the people of Saline County, and the Republic of which they are a part.



PHOTO COURTESY MAUD AND WILL JOHNSON.

Spanish-American War Regiment on Dress Parade.



World War II Veterans Memorial,
Carrier Mills.

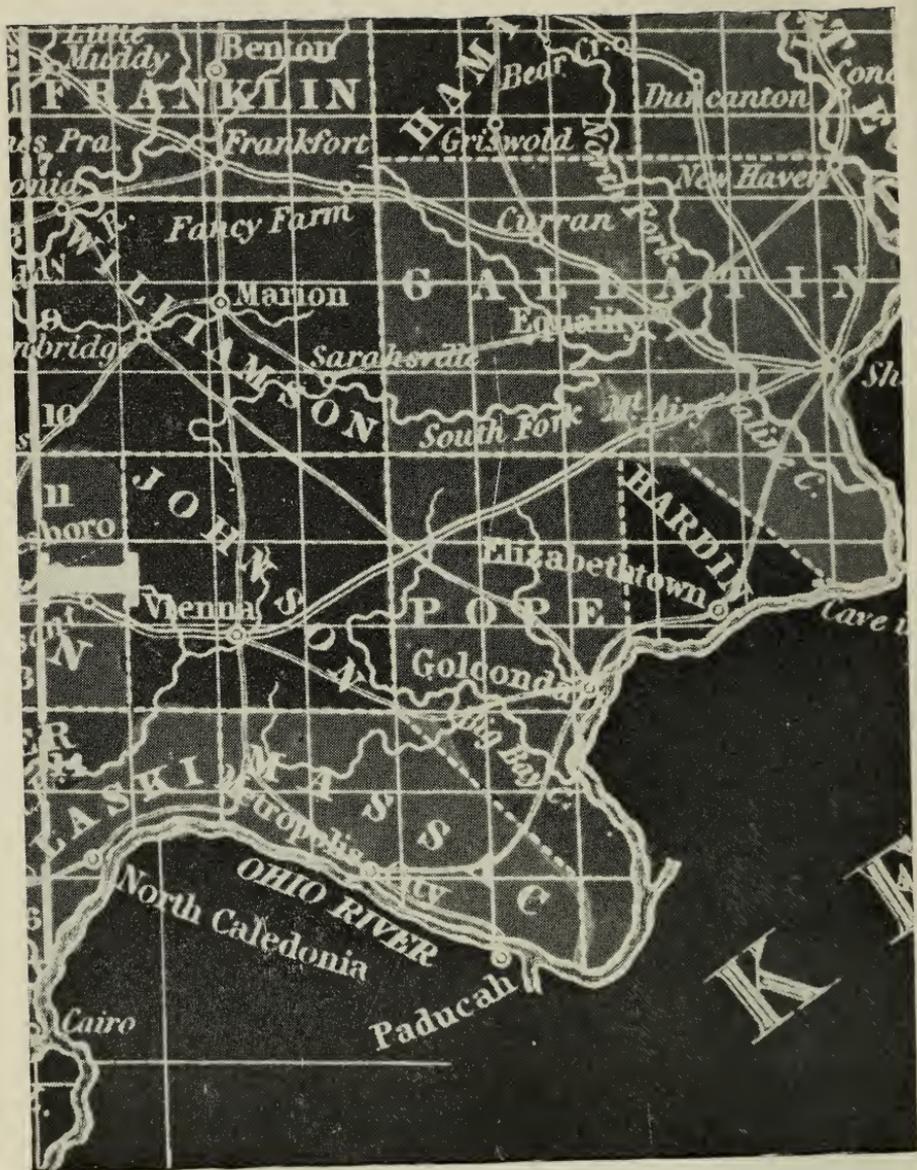


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Early Map showing mail routes.

XIV.

Early Postoffices and Towns

By L. O. Trigg

THERE were seven postoffices in Saline County in 1856—Apple Tree, Gallatia, Harrisburg, Long Branch, Raleigh (courthouse), Somerset, South America.

In 1876, there were twelve—Eldorado, Carrier Mills, Galatia, Halltown, Harrisburg, Mitchellsville, Raleigh, Rileyville, Somerset, South America, Stonefort, and Texas City.

Now, in 1947, there are only nine—Carrier Mills, Eldorado, Galatia, Harco, Harrisburg, Muddy, Raleigh, Stonefort, and West End. Rural free delivery routes account for the reduced number of postoffices.

Following is a list of past and present day postoffices of Saline County, when established, name of first postmaster, date of discontinuance, re-establishment, and other notes:

Apple Tree, October 18, 1854; Henry Garner; discontinued, November 2, 1858.

Bankton, April 25, 1848; John Williamson. The name of the office was changed to "Harrisburg," and Jo Robinson appointed postmaster, February 28, 1856.

Bankston, September 22, 1858; Thomas J. Cain; discontinued, May 10, 1881.

Battlesford, no postoffice. Muster and drill practice in the community was suggestive of the name.

Bolton village, (now Stonefort, 1936), served by Stonefort postoffice, which see. Bolton was a postoffice in Williamson County—February 28, 1849, to December 28, 1864. David Buckner was the first postmaster.

Carrier Mills, October 2, 1873; G. W. Barker. This village first was called Morrillsville.

Cottage Grove, March 29, 1898; (Doctor) Andrew H. Beltz; discontinued, August 16, 1909.

Curran, September 23, 1828; George McCreery. Earliest of record in the county. The name of the office was

changed to "Raleigh," October 27, 1847, (see Raleigh).

Dallasania, July 25, 1899; William J. Dallas; discontinued, September 25, 1906.

Derby, April 8, 1892; Elmer E. Osborne; now discontinued.

Eagle, February 14, 1901; Lura Jackson; discontinued, April 30, 1929.

Eldorado, December 8, 1858; Nathaniel Bramlet.

Francis Mills, August 26, 1893; Nelson J. Francis; discontinued, October 31, 1919.

Gallatia, February 3, 1837; James Choisser. The name of the office was changed to "Galatia," and Claudia B. Upchurch appointed postmaster June 20, 1892.

Garris Ridge, a mill site and vanished village, north of the present Stonefort, but never a postoffice.

Grayson, June 5, 1914; Charles H. Irvin; now discontinued. This place was nicknamed "Nigger Hill."

Halltown, August 25, 1862; Alfred Hall; discontinued, October 3, 1883. Hamburg village plat surveyed by James W. Russell, for Wesley Coffee and William Durham, April 26, 1877. No postoffice.

Harco, November 21, 1917; Thomas Hoffman.

Hartford, September 22, 1858; John D. Jenkins; discontinued, December 4, 1866; re-established, August 10, 1868, with George W. Clayton; again discontinued, July 28, 1871; again reestablished, August 21, 1885, with McDonald D. Empson; finally discontinued permanently, September 27, 1904. This office was located in southwest part of Galatia township.

Hawkeye, April 23, 1895; Mark Murray; discontinued, November 4, 1895.

Horseshoe, May 22, 1906; Thomas L. Blackman; discontinued, July 15, 1914.

Independence and Mitchellsville names were used alternately and interchangeably for the same community,

but the latter was favored with the postoffice name. The village grew up around Mitchell's water mill, on the South Fork of the Saline River, six miles south of Harrisburg.

Ledford, September 30, 1880; John M. Ledford; discontinued, January 30, 1882; ten years later, re-established, February 20, 1892, with Thomas A. Rose; now discontinued.

Mitchellsville, December 22, 1854; Joseph Diarman; discontinued, September 7, 1855. A year later, re-established, October 21, 1856, with George W. Jackson; final discontinuance, March 15, 1927.

Mount Airy, Mountain Township, (see last item).

Muddy, September 22, 1908; William E. Joyner.

New Castle, February 26, 1889; William R. Rice; discontinued, May 4, 1896. This village developed around the small slope mine along the Big Four railroad, northeast of Stonefort, just across and north of South Fork of Saline Creek. The town was nicknamed "Crap Hat."

Raleigh, this office was established under the name of "Curran," September 23, 1828, with George McCreery as postmaster. The name of the office was changed to "Raleigh," October 27, 1847, with Archibald Sloan, as postmaster. Early maps show Curran as being on an east and west road, in the cemetery north of Raleigh.

Rathbone Station was an early flag stop, on the Big Four railroad, a mile west of the present Wasson. Later, it was called Dooley Station.

Red Bud, (or Brooklyn), was a flag stop on the Louisville and Nashville railroad, south of Eldorado.

Rileyville, February 3, 1874; Mrs. E. M. Riley; discontinued, February 15, 1911.

Rudement, May 6, 1896; Joseph H. Cummins; now discontinued.

Saline City—no postoffice. This village was surveyed

in 1858. It was east of the present Eldorado Township High School, on the Old Goshen Trail.

Somerset, December 19, 1851; Hankerson Rude; discontinued, February 12, 1874; re-established, March 24, 1875; Henry L. Van Lienen; discontinued, May 16, 1878; re-established, January 23, 1885; Henry Van Lienen; discontinued, June 30, 1912; re-established, September 17, 1913; James G. Estes; discontinued, October 15, 1926.

South America, October 31, 1853; Uriah Carson; discontinued, September 30, 1907. This office was west of the present Carrier Mills, and near the county line of Williamson and Saline Counties.

Stonefort, February 15, 1858; Willis Stricker. It was located near the south line of the county, when first established, but was removed, in 1872, to its present site on the Big Four railroad. Cornersville was the community name before the establishment of the postoffice, at what is now called Old Town.

Tison, May 31, 1902; Jesse O. Peters; discontinued, May 14, 1905.

Texas City, July 23, 1869; C. G. R. Skelton; now discontinued.

Wasson, April 25, 1908; Joseph W. Davis; now discontinued.

West End, August 26, 1881; James W. Hendricks.

Whitesville, a mill site on South Fork of the Saline River, southeast part of county. No record of postoffice.

Mount Airy is not recorded as a postoffice, but it was one of the stops on an important overland mail route in operation, in 1834 to 1838. No doubt, mail was given out and received at some store or tavern, as was the custom on such routes before a postoffice was established. Over Route No. 3101, mail was transported by four-horse stagecoaches, twice-a-week from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to Clear Creek Landing, Jonesboro, Mount

Pleasant, Vienna, Mount Airy to Shawneetown. Colton's Sectional map, 1856, and Cary and Hart, Philadelphia, 1841, County map, show Mount Airy a short distance from the spot Somerset postoffice was established in 1851. Mount Airy, Tennessee, is the community from which came the early settlers of the southeast part of the now Saline County. The heads of these twelve families are listed: Horton, Barnes, Story, Biggers, Jourdan, Ewell, Wright, Kilgore, Moore, Cannon, Rude, Estes—the latter, Chisem Estes died and was buried, February 10, 1829, in the cemetery south of what afterwards became Saline Valley Baptist Church. This was the beginning of the Coffee cemetery. Estes was sixty-seven at the time of his death. Horton Hill, nearby, gets its name from the Horton family. This caravan of pioneers crossed the Ohio River on their home-made rafts, near the present Elizabethtown, with Galena and the lead region as their planned destination, but smallpox broke out among them, which necessitated their stop together in this area. This changed their whole plans and thus accounts for their settling here. The name Mount Airy followed them. In a few years, some of the Jourdans became restless, and moved westward, which accounts for Jourdan's Fort, 1804, in the now Franklin County.

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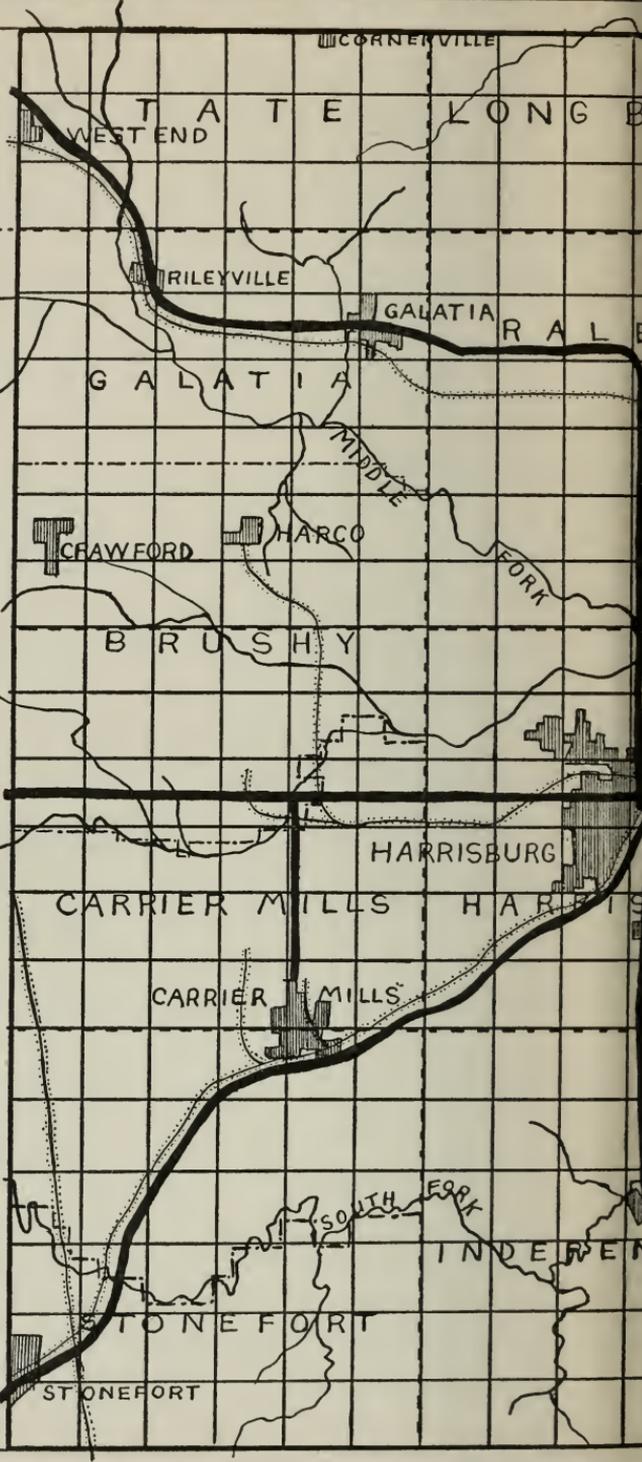
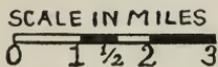
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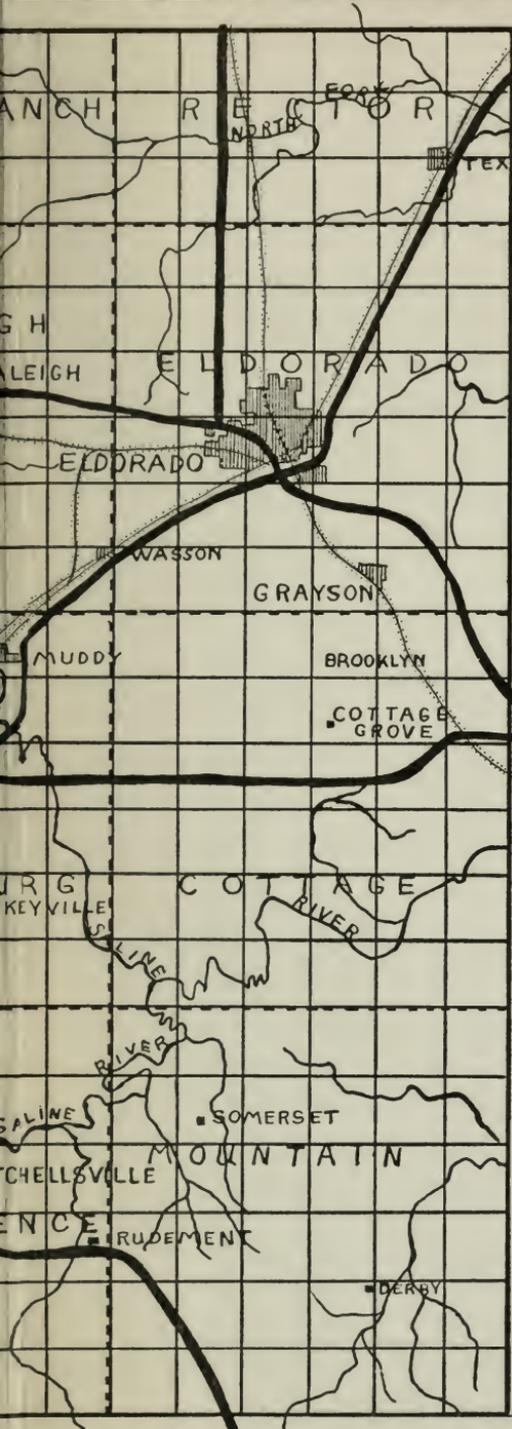
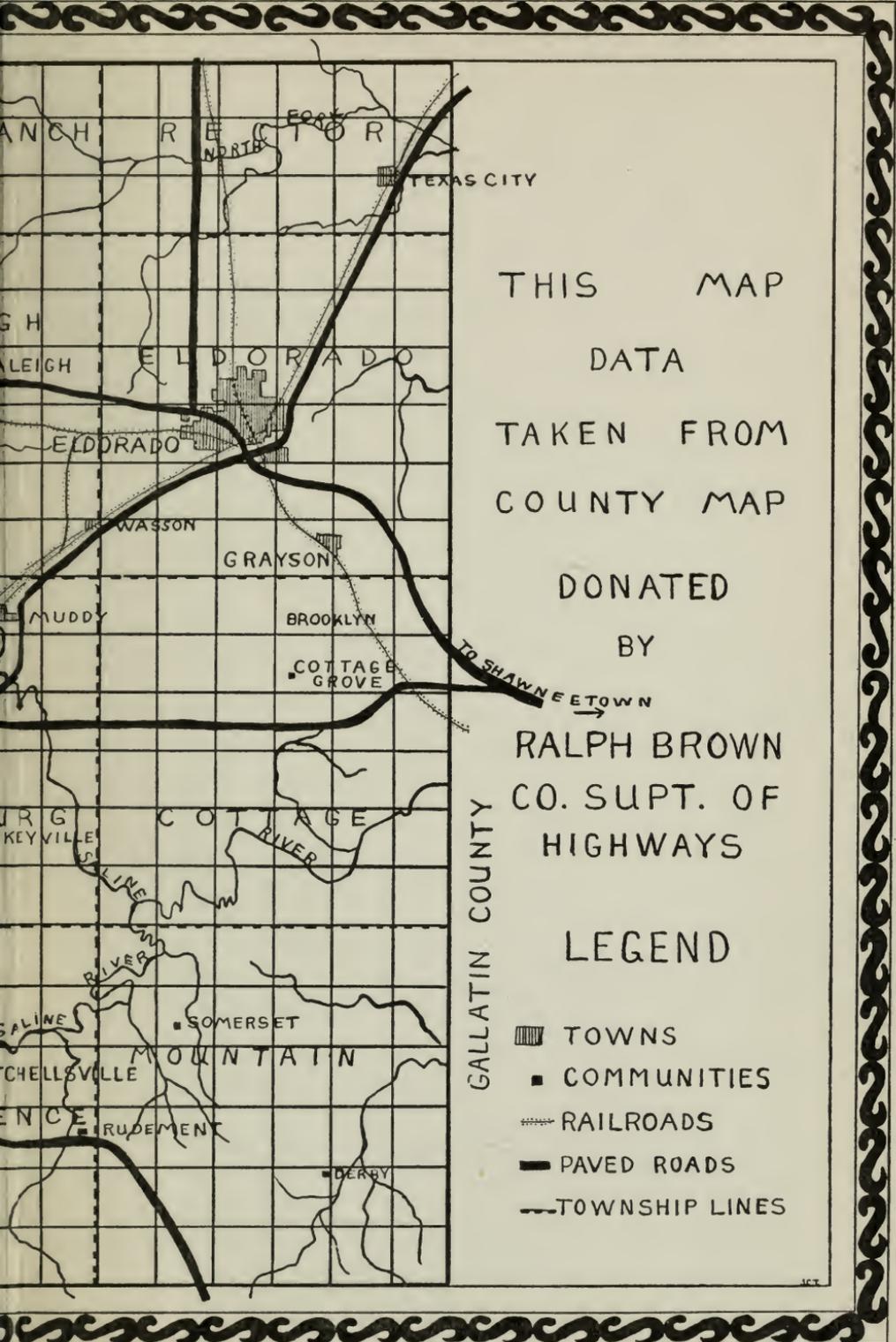
SALINE COUNTY

1947

FRANKLIN CO.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY





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